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TRAVELS

IN

THE IONIAN ISLES,

ALBANIA,

THESSALY, MACEDONIA, &c.

DURING THE YEARS

1812 AND 1813.

BY HENRY HOLLAND, M.D. F.R.S.

&c. &c.

THE SECOND EDITION.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

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At noon, on the 24th of November, we quitted the house of the Archbishop of Larissa, and commenced our journey towards the ancient Macedonia. Our Ioannina Tartar, Osmyn, having business to transact at Salona, to the north of the gulf of Corinth, it was agreed that he should perform this expedition during our absence from Larissa, rejoining us at this place on our return from Salonica. The Tartar Sulema, whom Veli Pasha appointed as our present guide, was a man of different appearance; more sumptuous in his apparel, but mild or even effeminate in his aspect, and much less active and imposing than his predecessor. We augured ill of him in the outset,

from the wretchedness of the post-horses which he procured for us at Larissa; and this first impression was only in part redeemed by the quiet good-nature of the man in the after-progress of his services.

Our party, in leaving Larissa, was further increased by a Dervish travelling to Salonica, and by another Turk who was taking the same route. The Dervish belonged, as I believe, to the class of these *religieux* called the Bektashis: his dress was that most common among the Dervishes, — a long cloke made of coarse white woollen, and on his head a tall white cap, in form nearly resembling that worn by the Tartars. His beard was of remarkable length: though sanctified by his character, he wore pistols in his girdle; while over his shoulders was suspended a long leathern case containing the musical instrument called a *mandolin*, which we afterwards found to be a most important part of his travelling equipage. Though his exterior had something of uncouth wildness, his manner was gay, good-humoured, and civil; he seemed to court an intercourse with us, and sought to beguile the way by the chaunting of Turkish songs, a species of music which more engaged the ear by loudness than by harmony.

Our first stage was to Ampelachia, a town situated near the western entrance of the defiles of Tempe, about twenty miles from Larissa. The Peneus, or Salympria, after long pursuing its tranquil course through the plains of Thessaly, ap-

pears at last as if arrested in its progress; and the eye, carried vaguely along the mountain range, which forms the eastern boundary of these plains, sees no opening through which the river may find its passage. From the loftier heights of Olympus, at the northern extremity of this boundary, descends a groupe of mountains which seems as if connected with the elevation of Ossa; while from this latter mountain other heights stretch towards the south, even as far as Pelion and the Pelasgic Gulf. A more accurate observation shows an opening in this boundary, in the interval between Olympus and Ossa; and through this defile, which is the celebrated Tempe, the Salympria pursues its dark and contracted course towards the sea. From Larissa to the entrance of Tempe, the river flows in a north-easterly direction, and the great route to Macedonia seeks the same point, as the only exit on this side from the plains of Thessaly.

As we proceeded on our road, the views of Olympus and Ossa became each moment more interesting. The form of the latter mountain, (now called Kissavo,) as it is seen from this side, has some resemblance to that of Arthur's Seat near Edinburgh; its outline being conical, with the ascending sides somewhat concave, and a single summit. The height of Ossa I have no means of stating, except by surmise. From the distance at which I afterwards saw it, when at sea, I should conjecture that its elevation is little less than 4000 feet. Its relation in form and position to Olympus,

as seen from this point, explains, to the eye at least, the old fable of the Giants placing Ossa upon Pelion, to war against Jupiter.

The hilly country along the skirts of the latter mountain was formerly inhabited by a tribe of Perrhæbii, seemingly allied in origin to those of the Pindus chain. * Two or three large towns are found in this district, of which the principal is Elasson, distant about eight hours' journey from Larissa. It contains a population of 6000, partly Turkish, partly Greek, with several mosques and churches. This town stands on the site of Olooson, a place noted by several ancient writers for the property its soil had of giving a white colour, — an effect probably of some compound of clay and decomposed calcareous or magnesian rock. †

When advanced a few miles from Larissa, keeping the Salympria on our left hand, we arrived at an extensive morass which the road traverses by a paved causeway. This marsh was probably the Lake Neson of ancient Thessaly, mentioned by Strabo as one of his authorities for believing that this country was once covered with water, before the opening of Tempe had afforded an egress to the sea. In former times, as at present, it appears to have been flooded only when the Peneus, with which it had communication, was swelled by rains. Beyond this morass, the plain, which is here broken by low eminences, exhibits a surface covered with

* Hom. Iliad. lib. ii. 749.

† Homer (Il. lib. ii. 739.) calls it Ολοοσσονα ευκνημ.

fragments, chiefly of primitive rock, gneiss, mica-slate, marble, quartz, chalcedony, &c. These fragments of primitive slate I imagine to be derived from the hills bordering the plain on its northern side, which hills are connected in one range with those behind Zarko, already mentioned as affording similar fragments. In a distant view of this range, which I afterwards obtained from Thomoko, on the southern boundary of the plains, I found farther reason to believe, from the general outline of the hills, that they are chiefly composed of primitive slate-rocks. They do not appear to attain any great elevation, until rising towards their eastern extremity into the heights of Olympus.

The sun had already set before we reached the opening of Tempe, and we saw obscurely through the shades of evening, the precipitous outline of cliffs and lofty eminences approaching each other, and gradually contracting the width of the valley. There is an extreme beauty in the scenery, which is thus intermediate between the expanded plains of Larissa and the rocky defile forming the interior of Tempe. It is wild, irregular, and abounding in precipitous forms, yet is divested of harshness by the luxuriance of foliage, and by the softness of the vallies and openings which intervene among these lofty eminences. The river pursues a tranquil course along the lower part of the valley, flowing underneath the spreading shade of plane-trees, and here and there expanding to encircle with its stream some little islet covered with wood.

Several villages and hamlets are seen in the most picturesque situations at this western entrance of Tempe, some of them inhabited by Greek, others by Turkish population. In ancient times, Gonnos, Elone, and other towns stood in this district; and here also the Eurotas, or Titaresius, entered the Peneus from the mountains under Olympus; a stream mentioned by Homer and other writers as remarkable for the oleaginous quality of its waters, which prevented their mingling immediately with those of the Peneus. I observed, through the dusk of the evening, what I imagine to be the valley of this stream, which however, I believe, has been little explored by the modern traveller. *

The small village and Khan of Baba are situated on the southern bank of the Salympria, where the river is about to enter its more contracted channel, formed by precipitous mountain-cliffs. The traveller with whom time is a stronger motive than curiosity, may either pass the night here, or pursue his way forward through the straits of Tempe. Those who are solicitous to survey the various features in the population of the country, will do well to deviate from the direct route in ascending to the

* Homer, who calls it the Titaresius, (Il. lib. ii. 751.) after describing the immiscibility of its waters, adds,

Ορκος γαρ δεινος Στυγος υδατος εστιν απορρωξ.

See also Plin. Hist. Nat. lib. iv. c. 8. and Lucan. lib. vi. 375. Seneca, in his "Naturales Questiones," speaks of the noxious quality of the oleaginous matter brought down by this river. It is probably naphtha, or some bituminous substance which is here described.

town of Ampelachia, placed in a most extraordinary situation on the face of the mountain, which here forms the southern boundary of the valley. This mountain, connected in the same line with the cliffs of Tempe, may be considered as part of that groupe of which the cone of Ossa is the central and loftiest part. It presents a steep and broken front, elevated into ridges, or receding in deep hollows and ravines. The town stands on this irregular ascent, its lower part being more than 600 feet above the level of the river beneath. The number of houses is said not to exceed five or six hundred, but these, even more than is usual in the towns of this country, are dispersed over a wide extent of surface; and, in insulated situations, surrounded by trees, or separated by ravines, extend far upwards on the acclivity of the mountain. An irregular cork-screw road, in some places cut in the rock, in others carried along the channel of mountain-torrents, conducts the ascent of the traveller from Baba to Ampelachia. Entirely benighted before we reached the former place, there was extreme difficulty and some danger in accomplishing this ascent. Notwithstanding the light of torches which some peasants carried before us, we twice lost our way among the deep hollows which intersect the hill, and were each moment apprehensive of falling over the cliffs which border on the road. This misfortune actually occurred to one of the luggage-horses, and our guides found it necessary to leave the poor animal to his fate, after they had suc-

ceeded, with great difficulty, in taking off his load. We did not reach Ampelachia till a late hour, and were prevented by this cause from seeking admittance into the Greek house to which we were recommended. Our night's lodging was taken up in a miserable building, which afforded us nothing but bare walls, and straw mats, with a scanty allowance of fire-wood. The approach of winter, and the elevated site of Ampelachia, rendered the last article one of necessity.

The morning of the 25th was wet and gloomy, but at intervals, through the clouds which enveloped us, we saw the remarkable character of the town. Nothing can be more picturesque than the various groupes of buildings which compose it. Rising from out the thick foliage of woods, or overhanging the deep ravines of the mountain, their open galleries and projecting roofs render the effect of situation still more singular and imposing to the eye. The oak, olive, and cypress, are spread over the broken surface on which the town stands, and intermixed with the foliage of vineyards; while the loftier ridges of the mountain, receding towards the south, are covered with long rows of pines. A few of the houses are built and furnished in the European manner. *

Ampelachia is interesting in its inhabitants as well as in the scenery which surrounds it. These

* Dr. Clarke has supposed, and with much probability, that Ampelachia may be the ancient Atrakia, from finding near the place the peculiar green marble, anciently called the *Atracium marmor.*

are almost exclusively Greeks; and what may seem singular in a place thus situated, have been noted for some years past for the extent of their commercial undertakings, and for a character of active intelligence and enterprise, which has procured them a high repute among the communities of modern Greece. Most of the merchants of Ampelachia have visited or resided in the great commercial cities of the continent, and established connections there, the extent and success of which are testified in the wealth many of them have acquired. These connections are chiefly with Germany; but also with Constantinople, Smyrna, and other places of trade in the Levant. The commerce of the place has its basis in manufacture; and the population of the town, like that of Tornavo, and other places in the surrounding country, is actively engaged in the various processes of making and dyeing cotton thread, the staple commodity of the country. A great part of the cottons grown in the plains of Thessaly are brought to this district for the use of its manufacturers. It is estimated that the town of Ampelachia furnishes annually about 3000 bales of dyed cotton thread, each bale being calculated at 250 lbs. Of this quantity nearly the whole is transmitted by land carriage to Germany; a traffic which is well regulated, and carried on with much activity by the Ampelachian merchants. *

* The Greek method of giving what is called the Turkey Red is briefly the following:—The cottons are first exposed to three leys of soda, ashes, and lime, mixed in nearly equal quantities;

It may be added regarding the inhabitants of this town, that while thus reputed in their commercial character, they have acquired much respect from their general cultivation of mind; and from the aids they have afforded to the literature of their country. There is a considerable Greek school here, which is said to be in a flourishing state.

Though Ampelachia, if I am rightly informed, is a part of the private property of Ali Pasha, the Ampelachians enjoy a comparative exemption from the evils of slavery, while their countrymen at Larissa suffer under the perpetual oppressions of their Turkish masters. These local differences of condition are frequent in Turkey; and occur in general as an effect of its irregular government, and of the amount of authority conferred on, or assumed by the provincial rulers; which renders their personal character of much more importance to the welfare of the population, than where power depends upon laws, and emanates directly from one source. The mechanical adherence of the Turks to habits once formed, is another cause of this variety; and a

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then follows a soda bath, which is repeated three or four times, and from which the cottons come out perfectly bleached. The galling and aluming are next in succession employed; the latter process being generally repeated twice, with an interval of two days: a small quantity of soda is usually added to the aluminous solution. To give the dye, madder-root is employed, with a small proportion of sheep's blood, which is supposed to strengthen the colour. Finally, a bath alkalized with soda is used to perfect the dye, this ley being made to boil till the colour takes its proper tint: this is of course a delicate part of the process.

third, of still more influence, is the different proportion their numbers bear to those of the Greeks in the several towns and districts of the empire. Of some places the population is principally Mahommedan; of others, exclusively Christian; and this more entire separation of the two communities is by no means uncommon in the villages and small towns throughout Greece. In larger towns, the population is usually of a mixed character; and here, the relation of Turks and Greeks depends in part upon the numbers of each class; the more active and cultivated genius of the latter people giving them a facility in eluding or opposing the sluggish tyranny of the Turks, and this facility being increased by their numerical strength. Where the population is wholly Greek, there is a still further exemption from the direct evils of personal oppression; the indolence and uniformity of the Turkish character affording a local limitation to its effects, and counteracting in some degree the influence of power. This last circumstance is probably one of the causes of the condition of the Ampelachians, who, living amidst the heights of Mount Ossa, and forming in themselves an exclusive society of Greeks, preserve a greater degree of personal freedom than their countrymen in the plains below. Much more, however, in this instance may be attributed to the commercial character of the people; creating here, as elsewhere, those habits of independent activity, which are more successful than any other in opposing the

efforts of a despotic rule. It may be remarked, too, that the merchants of this place, from their direct connection with continental houses, obtain in some degree a foreign protection to their industry; which is further sheltered by the advantage the Turkish proprietors themselves derive from it, in the ready disposal of their produce. Ampelachia, it is true, is situated within the power of Ali Pasha; but the oppressive vigilance of his despotism is lessened in this part of his territory; and the Ampelachian merchants are called upon to fewer sacrifices and less degradation than the commercial Greeks on the Albanian side of Pindus.

While awaiting in the gallery of our lodging some change in the state of the weather, one of the Greeks of Ampelachia came in to visit us. He was a merchant, and a man of respectable appearance; had travelled much in Germany, and spoke the continental languages with fluency. He remained with us half an hour, and gave us some interesting information as to the state of the town and of the surrounding districts. The Greek is uniformly social in his habits; and the travelled Greek more especially seeks the intercourse of Europeans, with an eagerness proportionate to the change he has felt between the society of civilized communities, and the dull unvarying round of Turkish existence.

Though it was a part of our projected day's journey to pass through the Vale of Tempe, yet we were compelled to set out under the obscurity of a small rain; consoling ourselves with the pos-

sibility that we might be more fortunate in returning towards Larissa. From the heights of Ampelachia we descended slowly into the valley, reaching the banks of the river, where it enters the deep ravine, which conducts it towards the sea. Looking generally at the narrowness and abruptness of this mountain-channel, and contrasting it with the course of the Peneus through the plains of Thessaly, the imagination instantly recurs to the tradition, that these plains were once covered with water, for which some convulsions of nature had subsequently opened this narrow passage. The term *vale*, in our language, is usually employed to describe scenery, in which the predominant features are breadth, beauty, and repose. The reader has already perceived that the term is wholly inapplicable to the scenery at this spot; and that the phrase of *Vale of Tempe* is one that depends on poetic fiction, ignorantly selecting the materials of descriptive allusion, and conveying an innocent error to the imagination of the modern reader. The real character of Tempe, though it perhaps be less beautiful, yet possesses more of magnificence than is implied in the epithet given to it. The features of nature are often best described by comparison; and to those who have visited St. Vincent's Rocks below Bristol, I cannot convey a more sufficient idea of Tempe, than by saying that its scenery resembles, though on a much larger scale, that of the former place. The Peneus indeed, as it flows through the valley, is not greatly

wider than the Avon; and the channel between the cliffs is equally contracted in its dimensions; but these cliffs themselves are very much loftier and more precipitous; and project their vast masses of rock with more extraordinary abruptness over the hollow beneath.

The length of this remarkable gulf from west to east is nearly five miles; its direction in this distance varying but little from a straight * line. Its breadth is varied by the projection or recession of the cliffs; but there are places in which the bed of the river occupies the whole space between the rocks; and where the interval from the base of one cliff to that on the other side cannot exceed 200 feet, and possibly may be still less. † In these places, and indeed throughout a great part of the extent of Tempe, the road is carried over and along the ledges of the cliffs; sometimes seeming to overhang the river; then receding to seek a passage across the ravines which descend from the mountain. Livy well describes this singular route, — "Rupes utrinque ita abscissæ sunt, ut despici vix sine vertigine quadam simul oculorum animique possit. Terret et sonitus et altitudo per mediam vallem fluentis Penei amnis."

* Ælian speaks of the gulf of Tempe, as being 40 stadia in length; Livy and Quintus Curtius both state it to be about five miles. Dr. Clarke has given in his Travels an accurate plan of the defile.

† Ælian states the breadth in some places not to exceed a *plethrum*, or about 100 feet. Var. Hist. lib. iii. 1.

Of the height of the cliffs of Tempe, I cannot speak otherwise than from surmise. Those on the north side, about the middle of the pass, are undoubtedly the highest; and here they appear to rise from six to eight hundred feet above the level of the river; passing more gradually afterwards into the mountain-heights to the south of Olympus, of which they may be considered to form the base. Towards the lower part of Tempe, these cliffs are peaked in a very singular manner, and form projecting angles on the vast perpendicular faces of rock, which they present towards the chasm. Where the surface renders it possible, the summits and ledges of the rocks are for the most part covered with small wood, chiefly oak, with the arbutus and other shrubs. On the banks of the river, wherever there is a small interval between the water and the cliffs, it is covered by the rich and widely-spreading foliage of the plane, the oak, and other forest trees, which in these situations have attained a remarkable size, and in various places extend their shade far over the channel of the stream. The ivy winding round many of them may bring to the mind of the traveller the beautiful and accurate description of Ælian, who has done more justice to the scenery of Tempe than any other writer of antiquity.

The Peneus, thus secluded alike by the vast cliffs which overhang the valley, and by the trees bordering on its waters, pursues its course through Tempe, a full and rapid stream, little interrupted

in its progress, though flowing between rocks so rude and precipitous in their forms. Ovid's description of it, in his story of Io, is well known :—

> ——— " Spumosis volvitur undis,
> Dejectuque gravi tenues agitantia fumos
> Nubila conducit, summasque aspergine silvas
> Impluit, et sonitu plusquam vicina fatigat." *

At the time I was in Tempe, though the river had been somewhat swelled by rains, there was little of this impetuous violence, but a deep and steady current, capable (as was the case also in former times) of being safely navigated throughout the whole extent of the defile. At this period of wintry floods, the water of the river did not show that clearness for which the Peneus was celebrated by the ancients †, but the streams descending to it from ravines of the mountains, or breaking out suddenly from natural basins in the rock, had a purity which might well suggest the poetic fancy of nymphs presiding over their waters.

About the middle of the pass on its southern side, and to the right of the road, are some high

* Ovid. Metam. lib. i. 578.— See also the story of Daphne and Apollo; the scene of which is laid in Tempe. Homer gives the epithet αργυροδινη to the Peneus, as it flows through Tempe. Iliad. lib. ii. 753.

† Pliny (lib. iv. cap. 8.), in speaking of the rivers of Thessaly, says, " ante cunctos claritate Peneus."

Εστι και σοδαμοις τιμη, η κατ' ωφελειαν, ωσπερ Αιγυπτιοις προς τον Νειλον, η καλα καλλος, ως Θεσσαλοις προς Πηνειον. Max. Tyr. Dissert. viii. p. 81. This perhaps relates, however, to the scenery on the banks of the river.

ruined walls, composed in part of Roman bricks; and on a cliff which impends over this spot, stand the remains of an ancient castle, one of those fortresses by which art assisted nature in defending this important passage. * Just below these ruins a stream enters the Peneus from the heights of Ossa, the scenery near the junction of which is very extraordinary; a vast semicircular basin being formed by the cliffs surrounding it, which are every where perpendicular as walls, and of great height. At the time of the Persian invasion, the Greeks sent a body of 10,000 men, under Evænetes and Themistocles, to defend this entrance into Thessaly; but on the suggestion that another route was open to Xerxes, over the mountains adjoining Olympus, these generals quitted the post, and retired southwards. Had they remained here, it is not impossible that Tempe might have been another Thermopylæ in the page of history.

The rocks on each side the Vale of Tempe are evidently the same; what may be called, I believe, a coarse blueish grey marble, with veins and portions of the rock, in which the marble is of finer quality. The front of the cliffs has a general aspect, to which the term *shattered* might best be applied; long fissures, both horizontal and perpendicular, traversing the rock, so as to give it frequently the ap-

* It is probably this castle which Livy describes, as "viæ ipsi, qua et media et angustissima vallis est, impositum, quam vel decem armatis tueri facile est."

pearance of being broken into detached masses. In many places large hollows and caverns have been formed; and here the surface is generally much tinged with the oxide of iron. Though it would be too much to affirm, from the character of the cliffs of Tempe, that there is proof of this defile having been formed by a sudden and violent natural convulsion, yet their general appearances, as I have already remarked, might certainly warrant some belief in the traditionary record of this event, which we have from so many ancient writers. Herodotus, in relating the excursion of Xerxes to survey the pass of Tempe, notices the belief common among the Thessalians, that Neptune had opened this passage to carry off the waters from their country, and states his own opinion that the separation of the mountains had been effected by an earthquake.* It is certainly not impossible that the latter surmise may be well founded. The nature of the tradition points at the event as occurring suddenly; and though we can scarcely suppose that the whole depth of the defile

* Lib. vii. cap. 129. In the same spirit of splendid folly which led to the undertaking at Athos, it occurred to Xerxes, standing at the entrance of Tempe, that if the Thessalians opposed his progress, their country might again be flooded and destroyed by an artificial mound thrown across the defile, so as to prevent the passage of the Peneus towards the sea. The submission of the Thessalians happily prevented this royal outrage upon humanity.

Eustathius, in his commentary on the 17th Iliad, mentions the clearance of the waters from the plain of Thessaly by the opening of Tempe.

was thus opened, it may be conceived not unlikely that the convulsion of an earthquake had the effect of deepening the channel, and thereby of carrying off the waters from the plain.

The memory of the event, however accomplished, was preserved by an annual festival of the ancient towns and villages at the western entrance of Tempe, of which we have an interesting description by Ælian. The fine allusion of Lucan to this subject is well known to the classical reader.*

We were extremely unfortunate in the day which conducted us through the scenery of Tempe. The rain of the morning had ceased, but the clouds still hung heavily upon the mountains, and here and there descended below the summit of the cliffs which bound the valley. The foliage too, though yet exhibiting its autumnal tints, had now lost in part that richness and profusion which belong to a less advanced time of the year, and the approach of winter showed itself in all the features of the landscape. While our cavalcade was slowly proceeding down the defile, the Dervish who travelled with us, entertained the party by his vociferous Turkish songs, which, in various parts of the pass, were echoed back with singular distinctness from the opposing cliffs. The retrospective view of Tempe from its

* Flumina dum campi retinent, nec pervia Tempe
Dant aditus pelago, stagnumque implentibus undis
Crescere cursus erat; postquam discessit Olympo
Herculea gravis Ossa manu, subitæque ruinam
Sensit aquæ Nireus, &c.

eastern extremity is very striking, and scarcely less so the landscape in front, offering to the eye a sudden change from this contracted mountain scenery to a wide surface of plain, richly wooded, luxuriant in its cultivation, and terminated in front by the sea of the Archipelago, upon which we now looked for the first time. Had the weather been clear, the peninsula of Mount Athos might have been seen from this point; but at this time we could not even discern the district of the ancient Pallene, which lay immediately opposite to us, forming the eastern boundary of the gulph of Salonica.

Leaving the defiles of Tempe, and descending upon the plain, we passed to the north side of the river by a horse-ferry,—an unworthy substitute for a bridge, half a mile below, which two years since was broken down by a winter's flood. The limits of the ancient Macedonia were not very accurately defined either on its Thessalian or Illyrian frontier; but below Tempe, it seems to have been generally considered that the Peneus formed the boundary to its junction with the sea; and in crossing therefore at this ferry, we quitted Thessaly, and entered upon a new region. * The banks of the river here are finely wooded; and there is much picturesque beauty in the opening out of the valley; though perhaps on the whole, this approach to Tempe is less remarkable in its scenery than the western end of

* Cæsar, however, speaks of the Haliacmon as dividing Macedonia from Thessaly.

the pass. A mile or two beyond the ferry, we quitted the direct road to the coast, and proceeded northwards to a small town called Pyrgetos, situated on the declivity of that mountainous tract which extends and rises in this direction, towards the central heights of Olympus; and in a westerly direction passes into the cliffs which form the northern boundary of Tempe. At this place we halted for the night, but had some difficulty in procuring a lodging; our present Tartar, Sulema, showing a temper too mild and easy to be the servant of such a system as now prevails in Turkey. In entering Pyrgetos, we observed four or five small stills at work by the side of the road; the material of distillation being the raisins of the country, the spirit from which is used, to a considerable extent, in every part of Greece. The interior of the town had a singular aspect, from the galleries and area of every habitation being filled with the ears of Indian corn, hung upon lines for the purpose of drying them. The produce of this grain is very large in the neighbourhood of Pyrgetos.

The foggy state of the weather concealed from us even the outline of the mountains to the north and north-west of this place, — a circumstance I regretted; since it was probably by a route over these mountains that the Roman army, under Q. M. Philippus, penetrated into Macedonia during the war with Perseus, the last King of Macedon, when the troops of this prince prevented the passage through Tempe. Livy gives an interesting account

of the extraordinary difficulties the Romans encountered in traversing this part of the Olympus chain, especially in their descent from the mountains towards the coast. * The country immediately round Pyrgetos is well cultivated, and the adjacent vallies, descending from the mountains towards the plain, are picturesque, fertile, and populous; several other small towns or villages entering into the landscape from this point of view. †

On the 26th we proceeded to Litochori, a journey of about six hours. For the first few miles, our route was over the plain, at the mouth of the Peneus, and tending in a north-east direction towards the sea. The appearance of this plain is rich and luxuriant in the extreme; and what is uncommon in Greece, it is divided in part by small enclosures. It is richly wooded over its whole extent; the trees being chiefly the plane and mulberry, and many of the former remarkable for their large and venerable growth. A great part of the plain is occupied in the culture of maize and wheat, which are principally conveyed to Salonica for exportation. While in this part of our route, we enjoyed a splendid retrospective view of Ossa, and the southern boundary of Tempe; the summit of the mountain rising above a broad zone of clouds which

* Lib. xliv. c. 6, 7. &c.

† There is reason to believe that the situation of Gyrton, mentioned by Homer and Strabo, nearly corresponded with that of Pyrgetos. The latter writer speaks of it as at the foot of Olympus, and near the river Peneus. Lib. 7.—Was not the Phila of Livy also somewhere in this vicinity?

hung on the sides of the upper ridge. Its skirts are intersected by many ravines, one of which, in particular, is remarkable for its great depth and abruptness. On the north-eastern declivity of Mount Ossa are several towns and villages; some of them of considerable size, and almost entirely peopled by Greeks. All this country is finely wooded, and much timber is carried hence to Salonica for exportation.

At noon on this day, we stood on the shores of the Archipelago, where it runs up to form the deep gulph of Salonica, the Thermaic gulph of antiquity. We now saw distinctly the peninsula which forms the opposite coast; and beyond it, the lofty and singular cone of Mount Athos, famous in the annals of despotic folly. The Peneus, after a winding course from Tempe through the plains, enters the sea to the south of the spot where we now stood. We had followed the progress of this river from its mountainous origin among the heights of Pindus; watching the gradual increase of its stream, and the various scenery of hills, woods, defiles, and plains, through which it has its course. It had become in some sort a companion of our journey, and we now quitted its banks as if parting from an old friend.

Coasting the sea for some distance, we came to the castle of Platomana, a large and irregular group of buildings, surrounded by a lofty wall, and situated on a rocky promontory overhanging the sea. A stream flows through a deep channel to

the south of this promontory, crossing which we entered a pass between the castle and the hills to the left. This point is the commencement of that narrow stripe of country, intervening between the base of Olympus and the sea, which formed the great passage from Thessaly into Macedonia, and which was the principal scène of the two campaigns that put an end to the sovereignty and race of the Macedonian kings. It may be presumed that the eminence of Platomana was the site of the ancient Heraclea, a town which was besieged by a detachment of the Roman army under Q. M. Philippus; and taken by the employment of the *testudo;* one body of troops forming an inclined platform by the elevation of their shields above the head, while others ascending this, were enabled to surmount the elevation of the walls, and to enter the * town. We stopped some time at a village in the pass, to make a meal on maize-bread, chesnuts, and wine; but were not allowed to enter the castle, which is guarded by a small body of Albanian soldiers. The arbutus (*arbutus andrachne*) grows in considerable quantity on the rocks in this vicinity; and Demétrius added to our repast by gathering some of the berries, the appearance and flavour of which are well known. It will be recollected that the *dant*

* See Livy, lib. xliv. 8, 9. The description leaves little doubt that Heraclea was on the site of Platomana. This place is now the seat of a Greek bishopric, the jurisdiction of which extends to Ampelachia, Rapshani, and other Greek towns in this district.

arbuta silvæ is used by Virgil in describing the winter; and though now the latter end of November, these berries were yet not entirely ripe.

From Platomana to Litochori is an open country, descending from the base of Olympus to the sea, and intersected by several vallies, which bring down the waters from the eastern side of this mountain. The most considerable of these vallies, which opens out from a deep and rocky ravine, is probably that of the Enipeus; an important point in the campaign between the Romans and Macedonians, which terminated in the entire defeat of the latter at Pydna. The Macedonian King Perseus had strongly fortified the banks of this river during the preceding year; but the celebrated Paullus Æmilius compelled him to retire from this post, by sending Scipio Nasica with five thousand men through the mountains of Olympus, to threaten the rear of his army. For two or three days previously to the retreat of Perseus, an irregular combat was carried on between the two armies in the valley; chiefly as a feint on the part of P. Æmilius, but with loss to the Romans, from the missile weapons thrown upon them from the Macedonian fortresses. The present appearance of this valley entirely coincides with the description of Livy, and illustrates well the narrativeof the historian. *

During the remainder of our way to Litochori, we were so much enveloped in fog, that the landscape was entirely shut out from us; and in arriv-

* Lib. xliv. 35. See also lib. xliv. 8.

ing at this place, which stands at the very foot of Olympus, every part of the mountain was concealed from our view. We found a small and wretched town, the houses of which are scattered over a surface of rock so rugged and unequal, that it was with difficulty we could make our way to the habitation of the Aga commanding the place. He appointed our lodging in a Greek house surrounded by rude fragments and ridges of rock, and seeming itself as if nodding to its fall. The family were greatly alarmed by our arrival, and shut themselves up in an outer apartment, scarcely appearing until the moment of our departure. An old decrepit woman was sent to attend upon us, from whom we could obtain little more than the phrases, Δεν εξευρω or Δεν καταλαμβανω, "I don't know," and "I don't understand," in reply to all the questions we proposed to her. The state of the weather, and our vicinity to the snows of Olympus, made us pass a very cold night here; and the people of Litochori have yet more reason than those of Eubœa, to give the name of Olympias to the wind coming down upon them from this mountain. In summer, however, the climate as well as the aspect of the place is probably rendered delightful by its situation underneath these heights.

The rock on the coast about Platomana is marble, and of fine quality, as may be seen in various places near the promontory on which the castle stands. On the way from thence to Litochori, the descent between Olympus and the sea is chiefly covered with

fragments of a coarse conglomerate, composed from different primitive rocks, and containing a large proportion of marble. The houses and walls in Litochori are built in great measure of this conglomerate, which I found also scattered over the surface, in continuing our route northwards to Katrina. Among the primitive fragments, I noticed a few of serpentine. These general observations, with what has been previously mentioned of the primitive slate country near Zarko, may lead to the inference, that the whole of the Olympus group is composed of primitive rocks; an opinion I was prevented from actually verifying by the season of the year, and in part also by the thick fogs which hung over us for three successive days, while traversing this country. * These fogs were such as entirely to hide the mountain; and but for one half hour on the morning we quitted Litochori, we travelled at its foot, with nothing but fancy to give the outline and height. This transient view, however, was extremely magnificent, and rendered even more so by its suddenness and partial obscurity. We had not before been aware of the extreme vicinity of the town to the base of Olympus; but when leaving it on the 27th, and accidentally looking back, we saw through an opening in the fog, a faint outline of vast precipices, seeming almost to overhang the place; and so aërial in their aspect, that for a few minutes

* In Dr. Sibthorpe's collection at Oxford, there are specimens of marble with the locality of Olympus attached to them.

we doubted whether it might not be a delusion to the eye. The fog, however, dispersed yet more on this side, and partial openings were made; through which, as through arches, we saw the sun-beams resting on the snowy summits of Olympus, which rose into a dark blue sky, far above the belt of clouds and mist that hung upon the sides of the mountain. There was something peculiar in the manner of seeing this spot, which accorded well with the mythology that made it a residence of the gods; and looking to such association with ancient times, the distinct outline of Olympus under a summer sky might have been less imposing than this broken and partial display of its form, which seemed almost to separate it from the world below.

The transient view we had of the mountain from this point showed us a line of precipices, of vast height, forming its eastern front toward the sea; and broken at intervals by deep hollows or ravines, which were richly clothed with forest-trees. The oak, chesnut, beech, plane-tree, &c. are seen in great abundance along the base and skirts of the mountain; and towards the summit of the first ridge large forests of pine spread themselves along the acclivities, giving that character to the face of the mountain which is so often alluded to by the ancient poets.* Behind this first ridge, others rise

* Ter sunt conati imponere Pelio Ossam
Scilicet, atque Ossæ frondosum involvere Olympum.
Virg. Georg. i. 281.

Horace (Lib. iii. Od. 4.) speaks of the "opaco Olympo;" and, alluding to the same story, Seneca (Agamem. v. 337.) calls it "pinifer Olympus."

up and recede towards the loftier central heights of Olympus, now covered, as already described, with the snows of winter. Almost opposite the town of Litochori, a vast ravine penetrates into the interior of the mountain, through the opening of which we saw, though only for a few minutes, what I conceive to be the summit — from this point of view, an obtuse cone, with a somewhat concave ascending line on each side. The sides of this ravine exhibit mural precipices of extraordinary height, and here and there the appearances of stratification were shown by the snow lying on the edges of the strata. Our view, however, was too short and obscure to allow many observations of this nature.

It is said that snow frequently lies on certain parts of Olympus during the whole year. The ascent of the mountain, however, is perfectly practicable in the summer-season, and a small Greek chapel has even been constructed near the summit, where service is performed once a-year, with singular contrast to the old mythology of the spot. The highest habitation on the mountain is the monastery of St. Dionysius on its eastern side, and in the route which conducts towards the * summit. The height of Olympus may probably be considered as between six and seven thousand feet. Plutarch tells us that the philosopher Xenagoras ascertained its elevation to be ten stadia, and nearly one plethrum, which would be a little below this

* Sonnini, in his Travels, describes the ascent of Olympus, to which he made an excursion from Salonica.

estimate. * Bernouilli, however, (Memoires de l'Academie des Sciences, 1699.) gives the height at 1017 toises, or somewhat above it. I am not aware that this point has ever been barometrically ascertained.

From Litochori we proceeded to the town of Katrina, a journey of only twelve miles, but rendered comfortless by fogs and heavy rain, under the oppression of which even our Dervish lost his melody and merriment. The clouds soon closed again over Olympus, as if too sacred a spot to be long beheld; and we saw it only once again during a four hours' ride along the plain which lies at its foot. We deviated somewhat from our road to a small *scala*, or port, upon the coast, with the design of seeking a passage by sea to Salonica; but though there were several barks here already laden for that city, the wind was so adverse that none of them would attempt the passage. The loading of these vessels was chiefly wool, the produce of the great flocks of sheep which feed on the mountains of the Olympus chain, and in the northern part of Thessaly.

The site of the ancient Dium must have been in this vicinity, — a city which formed an important point in the war already alluded to between the Romans and Perseus; and which, though not large, yet might boast its temple of Jupiter, its fortifications, and the statues which adorned its public

* Plut. in vit. P. Æmil.

places.* The temple of Dium was in part destroyed by Scopas the Ætolian general, during the time of the last Philip of Macedon.† At present I am not aware that there are any remains to testify its exact site. The place was important as a military position, from the small interval which here occurs between the base of Olympus and the sea. Livy and Strabo both describe the distance as being about a mile: but it is probable that the land here has gained in some measure upon the sea, since it did not appear to me that there was any point where the interval was so small. It is not unlikely that a stream which flows to the sea just beyond the scala may be the river Buphyris of Livy; and that an extensive marsh which it forms in its progress through the plain may be the *ostium late restagnans*, which he describes as contracting the space between the mountain and the sea.

At the distance of two miles beyond this marsh we forded, though not without much difficulty, a large and rapid river, which is doubtless the Haliacmon of antiquity, descending from the mountains to the north-west of Olympus.‡ These mountains, by the partial clearing up of the fog, we now saw forming a great sweep to the west and north, and

* See Liv. lib. xliv. 7. Thucyd. lib. iv. 78.

† Polyb. lib. iv. 62. This historian mentions also a gymnasium here.

‡ The modern name of this river I was told to be Specioto, but the editors of the French Strabo (tom. iii. p. 124.) speak of it as the Ienicora.

leaving towards the gulph of Salonica a wide extent of plain country, the Pieria of the ancients.* This district, which may be regarded as a part of the great plains of Macedonia, presents to the eye a fertile and pleasing aspect, and is richly wooded throughout a great part of its extent. It is chiefly from this part of the coast, and from the more immediate skirts of Olympus and Ossa, that the timber is obtained, which forms so important a branch of the export trade of Salonica. Some of the chesnut and plane trees which we passed on our route were of very remarkable size; and we noticed also much fine oak-timber, well fitted for the purposes of ship-building.

Katrina is a small town situated on the plain two or three miles to the north of the river, and surrounded by much wood. It contains about 300 houses, some of them of large size; and a mosque, which has a picturesque character from the trees that environ it. We obtained a lodging here in the house formerly occupied by the Aga of the town, but recently purchased by Veli Pasha, and tenanted at this time by one of his *grammatikoi*, or Greek secretaries. This man received us hospi-

* The district of Pieria is stated by Ptolemy to extend from the Peneus to the Lydias; but according to Strabo it begins to the north of the Haliacmon, and extends northwards along the coast to the mouth of the Axius or Vardari. The mountains extending to the west and north of Olympus are probably the Cambunian Mountains of antiquity; a narrow passage over which conducted from Pieria into the district of Perrhæbia and Thessaly. See Liv. lib. xlii. 53.

tably, and provided us with a dinner, fruit, and other necessaries. A Greek of Livadia and two Zantiotes, travelling from Salonica to Larissa, arrived at Katrina about the same time as ourselves, and were also quartered in this house. After our repast, we were drawn by the sounds of music into the adjoining apartment, where we found the Dervish seated by a blazing fire on the hearth, and amusing a large assemblage of people with his mandolin, accompanied by the voice. The chords of this instrument, which by the Turks is called *sarchi*, are upwards of three feet in length. The Dervish played with some skill and variety of execution. His vocal music, which was all Turkish, was of a wild and uncouth cast, some of it warlike, and celebrating the triumphs of his nation, sung with a good deal of emphasis, but every-where broken and irregular. He was silently but attentively listened to by Sulema and our other Turkish companion, who sat on a couch near him, smoking their pipes. This was one groupe in the apartment. On the other side of the fire, the Livadian Greek, the two Zantiotes, and the secretary were playing at cards on the floor, and in the back part of the room was a numerous groupe of attendants, chiefly Albanian soldiers, who listened to the songs of the Dervish with great seeming intentness and satisfaction. This singular scene continued till a late hour of the evening.

Katrina being a post-town, we left here the post-horses which had brought us from Larissa,

but found much difficulty in replacing them; and were compelled to pay even nine piastres for each horse, in hiring others to carry us to the place where we proposed to embark for Salonica, a distance of less than fifteen miles. It was evident that we suffered from an imposition, which the Buyrouldi and Tartar of Ali Pasha would easily have obviated. But those of his son were more feeble, and the cares of the Tartar Sulema were directed to his dress and personal comforts, rather than to the service of our journey. Foppery exists under all latitudes and every form of national costume, and it was strikingly exhibited in the instance of this man. No *petit-maitre* of an European metropolis could be more scrupulously nice in the arrangement of his dress, nor any perhaps boast of so much positive richness of attire, as our Tartar of Larissa. He usually wore two or three vests of purple velvet, all profusely embroidered; his under robe was made of a rich shawl-piece; round his waist were wrapped as a girdle three shawls, the outer one of common quality, the others of the finest manufacture, and between three and four yards in length. His manner of putting on these shawls was by fixing one end of each of them, and then turning himself within it from the other end, so as to draw the shawl tightly and uniformly round his waist. His arms consisted of two large pistols, the handles plated with silver, and so decorated, that each was worth 250 piastres. I believe there would be no exaggeration in estimat-

ing the value of his whole apparel at more than 100l., besides what he carried with him in a leathern case as a change on the journey.

On the 28th we travelled only to Leuterochori, a village about four hours' journey to the north of Katrina. Heavy and incessant rain, coming with a cold wind from the chain of Olympus, fell upon us the whole way; the roads were in many places almost impassable, and the country without interest; so at least it seemed with the other impressions of the moment. The general surface over which we passed is plane, intersected however by many small vallies descending towards the sea, which no where is distant more than four miles from the road. Judging from the soil, the country must be of calcareous formation. It is tolerably well cultivated, and produces much grain.

About five miles from Katrina, we traversed a valley of some breadth, through which flow one or two small rivers, and ascended afterwards a low ridge of hill, on which stood the town of Kitros. This town is upon, or very near to the site of Pydna; a city rendered remarkable as the scene of that battle in which P. Æmilius defeated Perseus, and destroyed the kingdom of Macedon. The immediate place of action was in the valley, and on the banks of the streams mentioned above, the ancient names of which were the Æson and Lycus. * The nature of the ground in its present

* See Plut. in vit. L. P. Æmilii. — It appears from Strabo that the name of Pydna was changed to Kitron before his time.

state accurately accords with the narrative of history, and illustrates well the circumstances of this event. The Macedonian army, retiring from their fortresses on the Enipeus, in apprehension of Scipio's coming upon their rear, took post on the northern side of this valley in front of Pydna. The Roman army arrived soon afterwards on the southern bank of the river, and one night intervened in this relative position before the battle took place. This night was signalized by a total eclipse of the moon; an event for which the sagacity of P. Æmilius had already prepared his army, but which was unexpected by the Macedonians, and produced great terror in their ranks.* The battle took place the next day on the banks of the river; the enthusiasm of the Romans, seconded by the prudence of their general, speedily overcame the enemy, and the Macedonian army was almost wholly destroyed. We are told that 20,000 were slain on the field, and that the number of prisoners exceeded 10,000. Perseus himself fled through the forests of Pieria to Pella, and was some time afterwards made a prisoner in Samothrace.

Kitros is a small town, chiefly inhabited by Turks, and containing a mosque which stands on the summit of the ridge of hill. The enquiries I

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though Wesseling has supposed that the passage stating this may have been interpolated by some later hand. It is the Citium of Livy, lib. xlii. c. 51.

* See the narratives of Livy and Plutarch.

made respecting any ancient remains in the vicinity procured me no information. We had suffered so much from cold during our ride, that we remained here half an hour in the stable of a Khan, where we found a large fire blazing on the ground, with six or eight Turks crouched on mats around it. With some difficulty we made our way into the circle, and at any other time might have been repelled by the looks of ferocious haughtiness which were cast upon us, and by the opprobrious epithets which were at the same time muttered by several of the party. In Albania and the southern parts of Greece these things now seldom occur between Turks and travellers from the west of Europe; but in this district the Turkish population is proportionably much greater, and intercourse has done less to soften the prejudices of the nation.

From Kitros a ride of five miles brought us to Leuterochori (*the free village*) situated on an eminence within two miles of the gulph. This place must correspond nearly with the site of Methone, the city where Philip, while besieging it, lost his right eye by an arrow shot from the walls. * We decided on passing the night here, but had much difficulty in finding a lodging. The commandant, a rough Albanian soldier, though Sulema showed him the passport of Veli Pasha, refused at first to do any thing for us, alleging that he knew no other order but that of Ali Pasha. We

* Strabo describes Methone as 40 stadia to the north of Pydna.

sent again to say that we were friends of the Vizier, and had visited him at Ioannina; and my Turkish sabre was shown by way of producing, if possible, further conviction. By the influence of these reasons we at length obtained admission into the house of the commandant himself, who treated us during the rest of the evening with a sort of boisterous civility, which was apparently meant to compensate for the mode of our first reception. The naked mud walls of his mansion could afford indeed little more than shelter from the weather; but this we felt as no mean advantage on a stormy evening at the end of November.

This district is the most easterly part of the territory of Ali Pasha, and the point at which he approaches nearest to Constantinople. It was formerly mentioned that his acquisitions in the region of the ancient Macedonia comprize four large cantons, stretching westwards from that part of the Pindus chain about Ochrida, Kastoria, &c. to the head of the gulph of Salonica. Here commences the territory governed by Ishmael Bey of Seres; who, though comparatively feeble in his power, yet forms an important barrier to the progress of Ali Pasha, in his position, and in the resources he derives from the natural wealth of the country.

On the morning of the 29th we proceeded to the coast, and embarked in a small bark for Salonica, accompanied by several Albanian soldiers and peasants. The distance of Salonica from this point does not exceed twenty miles, but calms or con-

trary wind kept us nearly eight hours on the passage. Our course lay across the gulph, at a short distance from its upper extremity, where the great plains of Macedonia terminate in extensive marshes and lagoons, through which the two large rivers, the Vardari and the Vistritza, flow to the sea. Of these rivers, the Vardari is the most considerable, rising from the mountains in the centre of the continent of Turkey, and bringing down a large and constant body of water. This was the Axius of antiquity, to which Homer applies the name of the *wide-flowing* *, and on which stood Pella, the capital of the Macedonian kings, at the distance of about fourteen miles from its mouth. The Vistritza seems to have been either the Lydias or Erigon; but now, as formerly, the rivers communicate by different branches, while flowing through these marshy plains; and not impossibly have undergone many changes in their course. The head of the gulph is rendered very shallow by the alluvial depositions, which are doubtless still going on in this situation, and which eventually may much impede the navigation of the port. At present the shoals form good fishing-grounds, and numerous boats are constantly engaged in this occupation for the supply of Salonica, and other towns on the coast.

The approach to this city from the sea is very imposing. It is seen from a great distance, placed on the acclivity of a steep hill, which rises from

* Iliad. lib. ii. 849.

the gulph at its north-eastern extremity; surrounded by lofty stone-walls, which ascend in a triangular form from the sea, and surmounted by a fortress with seven towers. The domes and minarets of numerous mosques rise from among the other buildings; surrounded, as usual, by cypresses, and giving a general air of splendour to the place. In approaching the city, we passed among the numerous vessels which afford proof of its increasing commerce; and at six in the evening came up to one of the principal quays, the avenues of which were still crowded with porters, boatmen, and sailors, and covered with goods of various description.

CHAP. XV.

SALONICA. — ENGLISH CONSUL HERE. — HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION OF THE CITY. — MOSQUES OF SANTA SOPHIA AND ST. DEMETRIUS. — ANTIQUITIES OF SALONICA. — POPULATION AND CHARACTER OF SOCIETY. — GERMAN RESIDENTS. — COMMERCE OF THE PLACE. — SKETCH OF THE OVERLAND TRADE TO GERMANY. — ISHMAEL BEY OF SERES.

It was already dark when we landed on the quay of Salonica, and we found upon enquiry that we could not obtain access to the interior of the city, the gates being always closed at sunset. We were directed, however, to a Turkish coffee-house, near the place of landing, where we found a large room, divided by railing into four elevated compartments, one of which was allotted to us. The others were occupied by various groupes of people, Turks, Greeks, and Albanians; some sleeping, some smoking, others singing or in loud conversation. The Dervish who accompanied us hither, was as usual one of the merriest and most noisy in the apartment. He brought out his mandolin, chaunted his Turkish songs with the same vociferation as heretofore, and with a seeming defiance of all weariness, continued this occupation till a late hour of

the night. The Turks who were smoking around him, appeared to derive enjoyment from his music, though this enjoyment could not be inferred from what is the common manner of its expression among other people. It may be doubted, perhaps, if the Turk be liable to many strong emotions of mind; but whether this be so or not, it is certain that the external demonstration of feeling is unknown to his national habits, and among his countrymen would even be considered as disgraceful to his personal character. The pipe taken for a short time from the mouth, and something more of intentness given to the eye, are usually the only tokens of his feeling interest in what is passing before him, and any more direct expression of pleasure is seldom obtained. This might be accepted as a stoical virtue of character, were it not soon found that neither knowledge nor thought are present under the gravity of Turkish demeanour; and that it is at best but the formal apathy of habit, which hangs thus heavily upon the countenance and manners of this people.

We passed the night surrounded by at least twenty people; and the following morning rose at an early hour to make room for the Turks, who came in great numbers to take their coffee in the apartment. While breakfasting in the midst of them, we dispatched Sulema with our letters to Yusuf Bey, the governor of the city. This was done rather as a matter of form, than from any likelihood of advantage, as we had now learnt on what terms the families of Ali Pasha, and of Ishmael

Bey the father of Yusuf, stand to each other, and how little was to be expected from any recommendation between these parties. In Salonica, fortunately there was no need of such recommendation; the presence of an English consul, and of a considerable Frank population, affording every comfort to the residence of the stranger in this city. We waited this morning on Mr. Charnaud, the English consul, a gentleman to whom we were indebted for many attentions during our stay at Salonica. He is of a Levant family, and has now resided in this city more than twenty years. His lady, who is a native of Holland, and his daughters, who have never quitted Turkey, are unacquainted with the English language, but speak the Romaic with fluency, and as their ordinary medium of intercourse. At their dinner table, we found some approach to the English manner of living, but combined with that common throughout the south of Europe. The Frank families, which have long resided in the Levant, gradually lose their several national characteristics, and become more identified with the habits of the country in which they live; and, unless within the precincts of a factory, the traveller might often seek in vain to find the relation between a national name, and the features of the individuals who bear it.

A striking instance of this occurred to our notice, in the family of Mr. Abbott, an English merchant of Salonica. A residence of more than half a century in various parts of the Turkish empire, has

taken from Mr. Abbott every thing English but his name, and an imperfect knowledge of the language. He wears the dress of the country, speaks the Turkish almost as his native tongue, associates chiefly with Turks, and might easily be mistaken by the stranger for one of this nation. Of his long residence abroad, forty-two years have been passed at Salonica; thirteen in the northern part of Asia Minor. He married a Greek lady of the latter country; and his son, the only person in the family who speaks English, is also married to a female of the same nation. We dined once or twice at Mr. Abbott's table during our stay at Salonica. The usages of his house differed little from those of common Greek society; and the ladies of the family in particular were scrupulous in their observation of the Greek fast, one period of which had just commenced with all its severities of denial.

By the assistance of Mr. Charnaud, we procured a lodging in the house of an old Frenchman of decayed fortunes, who has long resided in Salonica. We had wished that our Tartar should take up his abode in the same house; but the females of the family, who were all Greeks, expressed themselves in terms of such horror at this plan, that we were compelled to change it, and to send Sulema to the coffee-house, where we had lodged on the first night of our arrival.

The first two or three days of our residence at Salonica were chiefly occupied in surveying the interior of this city, well known to antiquity under

the name of Thessalonica, and at the present time one of the most considerable towns in European Turkey. The still more ancient name of the place was Therma; derived, in common with that of the gulph, from hot springs which still exist in several places upon the coast. The Macedonian Cassander, who enlarged and embellished the city so as to merit the title of its founder, gave it the name of Thessalonica in compliment to his wife, the daughter of Philip of Macedon. Cicero resided here some time during his banishment from Rome; and many of his letters to Atticus, who was then at his estate in Epirus, are dated from Thessalonica. At the period when the Apostle Paul visited the place, it appears to have been large, populous, and wealthy, and the Byzantine historians speak much of its splendour and importance. * The massacre of 15,000 of its inhabitants, from the sudden fury of Theodosius, is well known to history; as well as the severe expiation required of that monarch by the intrepid Ambrose. In the decline of the Greek empire, the city was taken by William of Sicily, and at a still later period made over by one of the Palæologi to the Venetians. The latter, however, enjoyed their possession but a few years, Thessalonica falling into the power of the Turks in 1431, to whose empire it has ever since been subject.

* See the description of Thessalonica by Ioannes Cameniates in his narrative of the capture of the city by the Barbarians (*during the time of Leo?*). Also the exclamatory eulogium of Demetrius Cydonius in describing the same event. Tzetzes, in his Chiliads, speaks of Thessalonica as πολις λαμπροτατη.

In its present state, Salonica is exceeded in population only by Constantinople, and possibly by Adrianople, among the cities of European Turkey; and in the extent of its commerce is probably second to the capital alone. Its general situation and the magnificence of its external appearance have already been noticed. The circumference of the city, as determined by the walls, probably exceeds five miles. This included area has the form of an irregular triangle; the sea-wall being the base, and the apex of the triangle being formed by the castle, which surmounts and commands the town. Nearly the whole of this area is occupied by buildings, only a small interval of rocky ground being left between the city and the fortress. The interior of Salonica presents the same irregularity, and many of the same deformities, which are common in Turkish towns. The rapid ascent of the hill diminishes this evil in the upper part of the town; and on the whole, as respects cleanliness and internal comfort, Salonica may contrast favourably with most other places in Turkey of large size and population. It certainly gains greatly in the comparison, if activity of business be admitted as a criterion of superiority. Except in those quarters where the principal Turks reside, there is a general appearance of life and movement which forms a striking contrast to the monotony of a Turkish town. The quays are covered with goods; numerous groupes of people are occupied about the ships or the warehouses; and the Bazars are well

stocked, and perpetually crowded with buyers and sellers. They are in fact chiefly Greeks or Jews who are thus occupied; people ever ready to seize any opening which may be offered to commercial industry, and ever ingenious in meeting and frustrating the political oppressions under which they labour. At the time when we visited Salonica, the great and sudden influx of trade to that port had afforded an opening of the most favourable kind; and the character of Yusuf Bey's government was such, as not in any material degree to check the progress of industry.

The style of building in Salonica is entirely Turkish; and as in Ioannina, the houses of the principal inhabitants, Greeks as well as Turks, have small areas connected with them, generally occupied by a few trees. The foliage intermixed with the buildings, however, forms a much less striking object here than in Ioannina; and the general appearance of the city is that of greater compactness and uniformity. The Bazars, which are situated in the lower part of the town, are very extensive, forming several long but narrow streets. As is common in this country, they are shaded either by trellises with vines, or by projecting wooden sheds, with branches of trees thrown across. The dealers, as I have already stated, are principally Greeks and Jews, with a large proportion of the latter nation. The shops are well filled with manufactured goods and colonial produce; but in jewellery, shawls, and the richer articles of Oriental

dress, appear to be somewhat inferior to those of Ioannina. In looking through the Bazars, we observed a great abundance of caviare exposed to sale in the different shops. The sturgeon, from which this is obtained, is caught in the Black Sea; and the caviare is brought thence in large quantity, for the supply of the Greeks in different parts of Turkey, who make much use of this article during the long fasts prescribed by their religion.

The number of minarets in Salonica contributes to the external magnificence of the city; and some of the mosques to which these belong, are worthy of notice from their size and antiquity. Attended by a Janissary, in the service of Mr. Charnaud, we visited the two most considerable; formerly the Greek churches of Santa Sophia, and St. Demetrius, but now converted to the purposes of the Mohammedan worship. The Santa Sophia was erected by the command of Justinian; the model of the edifice, though on a much larger scale, being the celebrated church of that name at Constantinople, and Arthemias the architect of both. There is something venerable and imposing in the approach to this building. It stands in the midst of an area, shaded by cypresses and other ancient trees; a large marble fountain is opposite to the great doors of the church; and detached portions of the original edifice, now partly in a ruinous state, are seen at intervals through the trees. We entered the interior of the mosque,—a privilege depending upon usage, which in all cases is omit-

potent among the Turks. The floor, as is usual in Mohammedan churches, is entirely covered with mats or carpeting, upon which were kneeling in different places eighteen or twenty Turks, each singly and silently engaged in religious worship. With whatever sentiment the tenets of their religion may be regarded, it is impossible not to be struck with the decorum, or even dignity of devotion, which is manifested externally in the worship of this people. It was necessary to comply with their usage in taking off our shoes before we trod on the carpet of the mosque, or could advance underneath the large and lofty dome which forms the most conspicuous feature in the building. The interior, in its present state, exhibits but few of those decorations which gave splendour to the edifice in its original character of a Greek church. A sort of stone rostrum, however, is shown here, reputed by the Christians of the city to be that from which St. Paul preached to the Thessalonians. I am not aware on what this tradition is founded.

The mosque, once the Greek church of St. Demetrius, is of large size, and remarkable for the number and beauty of the ancient columns which support and adorn it. The loftiness of the building has admitted two heights of gallery; each, as well as the roof, supported by a tier of columns passing round the church. The total number is said to be three hundred and sixty. Some of these columns are of marble, some of verde-antique, others of sienite and porphyry. We visited the

stone sepulchre of St. Demetrius in a cell adjoining the church, where a lamp is kept always burning; chiefly, as it seems, to enable the Turk who shews the place, to require a few coins from the visitor of the tomb. St. Demetrius was the patron saint of the city; famed for his martyrdom, and for various miracles which are recorded in the Byzantine history. A subterranean church is connected with the mosque; erected, it is said, on the site of the Jewish synagogue, where St. Paul preached to the people of Thessalonica.

There are few remains in this place belonging to a more remote antiquity. A triumphal gate, erected after the battle of Philippi, in honour of Augustus, has lost its former splendour by being made a part of the modern walls of the city. A work of greater magnificence is a triumphal arch of Roman brick, cased with marble, which traverses one of the principal streets. This is said to have been erected in honour of the first Constantine Originally there was a small arch on each side; but these are now blocked up; and in other respects the work is much defaced by time. Some fine bas-relief groupes still, however, remain on the piers of the arch; one representing a triumphal procession; a lower compartment describing the events of a battle;—the sculpture not without a good deal of * spirit.

* Pococke speaks with great admiration of these bas-reliefs: and M. Beaujour, in his "Tableau du Commerce de la Grèce," depreciates them in an equal degree. Perhaps the truth is between these two writers. M. Beaujour, however, is certainly too luxuriant in his description of the figures on the Corinthian colonnade of Salonica.

In the middle of the city, a singular ruined structure is seen, forming in its present state the entrance to the area of a Greek house, — a Corinthian colonnade, of which four columns now remain, supporting an entablature, on which are corresponding pilastres, six feet in height. On each side of this upper colonnade are four figures in full length, now so far defaced by time, that it is not easy to make out all their characters. It seems probable, however, that three of those on one side represent Victory, Bacchus, and Ganymede; while on the other are the figures of Leda and Ariadne, a male figure, and that of a female in profile. This edifice is supposed to have been the entrance of the ancient circus of Thessalonica; and if so, the scene of the dreadful massacre directed by Theodosius. It is stated, though I know not on what authority, to have been built in the time of Nero. It does not appear that the columns ever exceeded five in number.

The walls of Salonica are lofty and well built. The castle forms a large distinct area, separated from the city by a tranverse wall; the greater part of which enclosure is either vacant, or occupied by irregular buildings. At its highest point stands the fortress, surmounted by seven towers, like that of the capital of Turkey. The view from this point is extensive and magnificent. The city, and its numerous minarets, are immediately below the eye; beyond these the expanse of the gulph, and the vast barrier of the Olympus chain towards the west;

and in a northerly direction, the widely-spreading plains of Macedonia, and the rivers which pursue a tortuous course through them towards the sea. Pella, the ancient capital of the Macedonian kings, stood upon these plains; and its situation, even from this distance, is marked with some certainty, as well by the course of the rivers, as by the eminence on which stood the fortress of the city, described by Livy to be like an island rising out of the surrounding marshes. Towards the north of this tract of level country, a lofty range of mountains occupies part of the horizon; the modern name of which is said to be Xerolivado. In the same direction from Salonica is the large and populous city of Seres, the residence of Ishmael Bey, and the seat of his local government.

The view from the castle of Salonica, towards the peninsula of the ancient Pallene, is limited by the mountain called Chortchadje, a few miles to the south-east of the city; on the sides of which hill, ice is preserved in wells during the whole year for the use of the inhabitants of Salonica. * I cannot speak with certainty of the geological character of this peninsula; but I believe it probable that there is a good deal of primitive country in its extent. Mount Athos is known to be composed of primitive rocks; marble, a compound of hornblende and felspar, &c. The hill on which Salonica is built,

* This mountain is probably the ancient Birmium, at the foot of which stood the city of Berræa. Edessa was situated beyond Pella in the same district.

appears to be entirely composed of mica slate; a fact I first noticed in the open space between the city and the fortress, where there are many abrupt projections of this rock, exhibiting a great inclination of the strata. The mines of gold and silver near Philippi, and in other parts of Macedonia, are mentioned by various writers of antiquity.

The population of Salonica, in its present state, probably exceeds seventy thousand souls. I have heard it estimated as high as ninety thousand; but in this statement there appears to be some exaggeration. It is certain, however, that the number of inhabitants has been much increased within the last few years, owing in part to the extended commerce of the place, partly to the settlement of numerous emigrants who have fled hither to shun the power or the vengeance of Ali Pasha. The population is composed of four distinct classes, Turks, Greeks, Jews, and Franks; the last comprising all those inhabitants who are natives of the other parts of Europe, whether English, French, Germans, or Italians. The Turks probably form somewhat less than half the whole population of the city. Though thus intermixed with other communities of people, they preserve all their peculiar national habits, and a greater facility of exercising them than their countrymen of Ioannina. In walking through the quarters of Salonica chiefly inhabited by these people, we were more than once exposed to insult from the young Turkish boys, who, with the accustomed opprobrious epithets, amused themselves by throw-

ing stones at us. In a case of this kind, it would have been fruitless to remonstrate, and dangerous to offer violence in return.

The number of Greek families in Salonica is said to be about two thousand. The greater part of this population is engaged in commerce; and many of the Greek merchants resident here, have acquired considerable property from this source. The trade they carry on is in some measure subordinate to that of the Frank merchants of Salonica; but they have likewise extensive independent connections with Germany, Constantinople, Smyrna, Malta, and various parts of Greece. They do not possess so much reputation in literature as their countrymen of Ioannina; owing perhaps to the difference which their situation produces in the nature of their commercial concerns. I have visited, however, the houses of some of the Salonica merchants, in which there were large collections of books, including as well the Romaic literature as that of other parts of Europe. Salonica is one of the Greek metropolitan sees, to which eight suffragan bishoprics are annexed. The Greeks have a number of churches in the city, the principal of which is called the Rotondo; rendered remarkable by the domes which rise from its roof, giving an air of splendour to its external appearance.

The Jews form a large portion of the population of the city, and the number of houses occupied by this people is estimated at between three and four thousand. The community is of Spanish descent,

and settled here under certain conditions of protection and privilege, which appear to have been faithfully executed on the part of the Turks. The Jews of higher class obtain a livelihood chiefly as brokers, or retail-dealers in the Bazars : the greater number are employed as porters on the quays, and in other similar offices. They exhibit the same active diligence here as elsewhere ; but the repute of fraudulent habits goes along with that of industry ; and the Jews of Salonica are characterized in a saying of the country, as a people whom it is the business of every stranger to avoid.*

The Frank population of Salonica is confined to the lower quarter of the city, but has latterly been much extended in number by the increasing commerce of the place. The German and French residents are more numerous than the English ; and the former in particular have made several large establishments here within the last two years, in reference to the transit trade with the interior of Germany. The Austrian consul, M. Coch, is a gentleman who had formerly some rank in Venice, but who suffered during the revolutions of that state ; and has been obliged to accept his present situation at Salonica, in which he appears to be deservedly respected. The French residents consist chiefly of families who have been long settled in the Levant, either professionally or in commercial engagements. Their consul at this time

* This saying conveys the caution, "to shun the Greek of Athens, the Turk of Negropont, and the Jew of Salonica."

was M. Clairembaut, a gentleman who, in conformity to the designs of the existing government of France, is said to have shewn much activity in his endeavours to impede the British commerce at this port. There are two French medical practitioners in Salonica; one of whom, M. Lafond, appears to be much esteemed, both professionally and as a member of society, engrossing all the principal practice of the city.

The houses of the Franks resident in Salonica are similar to those of the native inhabitants of the country. The separation of their society from the rest of Europe has given rise to an intimate connection among themselves; and though by the usual faults or fatalities of life, some private feuds have found a way into the community, yet on the whole their social intercourse is maintained on a pleasant and respectable footing. The same insulation has in general exempted them from any violence of national animosity; though some time before our arrival, this harmony, which formed so important a benefit to all, had been affected by the influence of the French çontinental system, at that period under the despotic impulse of Napoleon, extending its baneful energies to every part of Europe. Humanity has but one comment to make on a political scheme, which could prohibit social intercourse with the subjects of a hostile power, even situated in this comparative seclusion; thus abolishing the courtesies of former warfare, and abridging, almost maliciously, the amount of human comfort. It is

requisite, however, to mention that M. Clairembaut, though executing the intention of his government in the furtherance of this system, ventured a deviation so far as to call upon us during our stay at Salonica; an act of attention, for which we were indebted to the kindness of M. Pouquèville, who had written to him with this object.

We found much facility in entering into the society of the German residents at Salonica. Mr. Chassaud,- a relation of Mr. Abbott's, and connected with the English establishment in the Levant, introduced us to the Austrian consul, at whose house we passed two agreeable evenings. The party there was a sort of *conversazione*, with card-tables also in the room. The company consisted of Greeks, Germans, English, and a few French residents; the ladies of the Consul's family, and the lady and daughter of Mr. Chassaud, being the only females present. The Austrian consul and Mr. Chassaud are married to sisters of a Greek family; and their daughters, who form the most cultivated part of the female society at Salonica, are more allied to the Greek than to the European character, in their costume, manners, and language. After an interval of solicitation, which did not disprove the old saying of Horace respecting singers, these young ladies gave us a number of songs in the Romaic and Turkish languages; the style of music much alike in both, and more interesting from the peculiarity than from the harmony of these national airs. One Romaic song, com-

posed by the unfortunate Rega, at the time when the French Revolution gave a passing impulse to the spirits of the Greeks, was sung to the well-known air which we connect with the words of "*Life let us cherish,*" &c. * In listening to this, my memory was carried back for a moment, with a singular shifting of scene, to the shores of the Faxé-Fiord in Iceland; where two years before I had unexpectedly caught the sounds of this very air, played on the chords of the Icelandic *langspiel.* The effect of these sudden contrasts between memory and reality mav be understood and estimated by all.

We received many civilities from the German merchants, resident at Salonica, and dined two or three times with large parties, which were made on our account. Their business of purchasing colonial and manufactured articles for the German market, and forwarding them overland through Turkey, is one that demands activity and enterprize, as well as capital; and accordingly we found several of them to be men of very considerable intelligence. We obtained, through their means, various particulars of this transit commerce; and though the series of later events has now greatly diminished the importance of the subject, I trust I shall be pardoned in giving a slight sketch of a traffic, which was singular in its nature, and which the

* This patriotic song, beginning, Τι καρτερειτε, φιλοι και αδελφοι, is one of the most popular and spirited of those which were suggested by the enthusiasm of the Greeks at the period in question.

contingencies of the future may possibly again restore; though never, it may be hoped, from the same causes or the same necessity.

Till within the last three or four years, the commerce of Salonica was limited to a certain average amount of exports and imports, which will hereafter be mentioned; and to a small overland traffic with Germany, chiefly for the conveyance of the manufactures of Thessaly. The obstacles opposed to the commerce of Europe by the continental system of Napoleon, while creating an extreme scarcity of colonial produce and British manufactures through the interior of the continent, had the natural effect of conducting the merchant to more remote channels of intercourse; the increased price of his goods compensating for the greater risk of the enterprize. The port of Salonica formed one of these new channels of commerce, and the progressive extension of the French system during the years 1810, 1811, and 1812, produced an increase in the import trade of this place; depending on the demand in Germany for articles, to which an access was denied by the accustomed routes. To conduct the overland traffic, the partners or agents of various German houses settled themselves at Salonica. The English intercourse with this port had hitherto been carried on through Malta, and in Maltese or Greek vessels; but the increasing demands for goods led to a more immediate communication, and during the year 1812 nearly thirty cargoes arrived here direct from England, besides

a still greater number of vessels, under the English flag from Malta and Gibraltar. The imports by these various cargoes were principally sugar, coffee, indigo, and cotton-twist; with a smaller quantity of other articles of miscellaneous kind. The goods thus forwarded to Salonica, were received by the German agents there, transmitted by land-carriage through Turkey, and the payments made in bill-transactions between the commercial houses in Germany and their connections in England.

The most singular feature in this trade is the long and laborious journey, by which the goods are transported from the shores of the Archipelago to the very centre of the continent of Europe. Such a journey, indeed, will not compare in length or difficulty with many of those performed by the caravans of the East; but it is nevertheless interesting, both from the nature of the road, and as an evidence of what commerce can rapidly accomplish in removing the impediments to which it may be exposed. From Salonica to the Austrian dominions there are two or three principal routes; one through the province of Bosnia; another through Bulgaria by Widin and Ossovo; a third which deviates from the last at the city of Sophia, taking the direction of Belgrade. The Bosnian route conducts the traveller through Seraglio, a city said to contain more than 50,000 people; but the country to be traversed is so mountainous, that it is comparatively not much frequented. The second route, or that of Bulgaria, is the one which has been

adopted for the transit of the overland commerce from Salonica. Pursuing a course nearly due north by Seres, Sophia, and Widin, it enters the Austrian territory at Ossova, and is thence continued through the Bannat of Hungary by Temeswar, to Pest, Raab, and Vienna. In the subjoined note, some farther details are given respecting this road, which seems on the whole to be the most advantageous for the purposes of transit commerce; though in the present state of Turkey, liable, like others, to interruption from internal feuds and warfare.* At the moment when we visited Salonica, such an interruption had just occurred, in consequence of a war between Mola Pasha of Widin, and his neighbour Yusuf Aga of Berkofcha. It was reported that the Pasha of Widin, following the example of his predecessor Paswan Oglou, had refused to obey certain mandates of the Porte; which, according to a practice very common in this part of the world, had impelled Yusuf Aga to attack him, with assurance of indirect support; thus satisfying its own dignity by exciting a petty warfare between two districts of the empire. It was conceived at Salonica, that this contest would be short; and that which-

* Some of the principal stages upon the Bulgarian route setting out from Salonica, are, — Klissoli, Seres, Dimirissar, Melenico, Doupnitza (in this vicinity is the great mountain-pass of Kresna), Sophia, Bereoftza (here there occurs a high mountain district), Lomm-Widin, Sambe, Ossova, Mechadia, Teregova, Matina, Karanschebes, Zugosch, Kisgeto, Rekas, Temeswar (the capital of the Bannat), Betskerck, Kemlas, Mokrin, &c.

soever party was successful, would readily allow the renewed passage of the caravans for the sake of the duties imposed upon them. In the mean-time, however, several individuals had gone up the country, to ascertain the practicability of a route through Servia; though it was apprehended there might be difficulty in establishing this, during the uncertain state of that province which succeeded to the Russian war.

The goods landed at Salonica for carriage into Germany are chiefly transported upon the horses of the country. They are made up into packages, each weighing in general $1\frac{1}{4}$ cwt., and of these packages two are carried by every horse. The cavalcades for this inland journey are of various size, some consisting of one or two hundred, others even exceeding a thousand horses. A few days preceding our arrival, Mr. Leoghley, a German merchant, had dispatched one of nearly eleven hundred horses; the greatest number, it is said, which ever departed at one time from the city. The property transported by this single conveyance, at a moderate estimate, must have been worth 30,000*l.* on its arrival in Germany. The time occupied in the journey from Salonica to Vienna is in general about thirty-five days, exclusively of the quarantine at Ossova, which at this time was extended to twenty-eight days. The cavalcades usually travel eight hours in the twenty-four. In the evening they halt in the neighbourhood of some town or village; the packages are taken off the horses and placed in

a central spot, with guards around them during the night; the horses pasture in the vicinity, and the men attending the cavalcade supply themselves with provisions from the villages. These men vary in number according to the size of the caravan; one man being commonly attached to every five horses, besides the guards who watch over the security of the whole. It is worthy of remark, that as far down as the close of 1812, no predatory attempt had been made upon these caravans, nor any material loss sustained by petty pillage during this long overland journey.

Camels are sometimes, but more rarely, employed for the inland carriage of goods to a certain distance from Salonica. Their load is double that of the horse, but the progress they make in a country like European Turkey is slow, and subject to numerous obstacles. We fortunately happened to see in the suburbs of Salonica a train of thirty or forty camels, just arrived from a journey; an interesting spectacle, as well in the magnificent size and attitudes of the animal, as in the connection it has with the tales and scenery of the East.

In their passage through the Turkish dominions. the goods are subject to various duties paid to the Pashas and other local authorities on the route; but these are for the most part of small account, often not exceeding a few *paras* on each package. They are said to be most considerable at Widin, the Pasha of which place has derived large sums from the passage of the caravans through his terri-

tory. I have heard it estimated that the total expence of the transit of sugar and coffee to Vienna was about cent. per cent. on their import value at Salonica, and it is easy to credit this statement. It has not been usual to effect insurances on the overland transport; this risk, as well as the expences of the journey, being compensated by the great demand for, and high price of colonial articles in Germany. In the autumn of 1812, coffee was selling at Vienna at a common price of 15*l.* per cwt.; sugar and other produce in the same proportion. It was found necessary, in carrying on this trade, to send down from Germany specie sufficient to pay the transit expences of the goods; no house at Salonica having means to afford accommodation of this kind.

The return cargoes from Salonica, during this period of its augmented commerce, have been chiefly of grain and timber; the former, in particular, rendered valuable by its deficiency at this time, not only in Spain, but even in Sicily, the ancient granary of Rome. Some obstacles were offered to this export of grain by the French influence operating through Constantinople; but the authority of the Porte in its provinces is too limited to oppose itself to an impulse powerful as that of gain. Shipments of corn, prohibited in appearance, were made with facility during the night; nor was it easy to raise impediments where the local government was the party chiefly concerned in these transactions.

The restoration of European commerce by the events of the last two years has had the effect of superseding this transit trade, and of reducing the commerce of Salonica to narrower limits. There is reason, however, to believe that it will still be greater than it was ten years ago; the recent low prices of our colonial produce and manufactured goods, having led to an increased demand among Turks as well as Greeks; which demand is likely in part to be continued, though the articles are again raised in value. Still, it may be considered that the trade of the place is now returning to its former level, and I shall therefore add a few remarks on its general nature and extent.

The exports from Salonica are principally corn, cotton, tobacco, wool, and timber; the produce either of the great plains to the north of the city, or of the shores of the gulf towards the south. The plains of Macedonia have long been celebrated for their fertility in grain; and the cottons of the district of Seres, the ancient Sintice, are deservedly held in much repute. The culture of tobacco is of course of later origin, though this plant now forms one of the principal articles of growth in the lands surrounding the Macedonian villages. Almost all the produce of this important district centres in Salonica, as a place of export; it being in fact the only accessible outlet for a great part of the territory in question. Of the grain shipped from this port, the larger proportion is wheat; the quality of which may, for the most part, be considered very

good.* In the year 1809, which will furnish perhaps a fair average, the export of wheat was estimated at 1,000,000 *kilos*, the kilo being about 55lbs.; that of barley at 500,000; that of Indian corn at 100,000 kilos. The ordinary price of wheat for export has been from five to six or six and a half piastres per kilo, until the last two or three years, when its value has been greatly raised by deficient crops, and an increased demand in other countries.† Unfortunately for the interests of commerce, the Bey of Salonica preserves a monopoly of the corn trade; purchasing all the grain from the cultivators at a certain price, and disposing of it to the merchants for his own best advantage. The prohibition to the export of corn from Turkey is easily obviated, by means to which I have already alluded.

The cottons of Macedonia are fine, though perhaps inferior to those of Thessaly. In the year 1809, the export of this article from Salonica amounted to 110,000 bales; the price on board varying from 60 to 85 or 90 paras per oke.

The annual produce of tobacco in this district has generally varied from 35,000 to 40,000 bales, the bale containing 110 okes, or about 275 lbs.

* The stranger must not judge of this from the bread in Salonica, which is rendered gritty and unpleasant by the softness of the stones employed in grinding it.

† The crop of 1812 was remarkably deficient, and when we visited Salonica flour was selling at 24 paras an oke, which quantity the year before had been sold at an average price of 14 paras.

Of this quantity nearly 30,000 bales are shipped at Salonica, chiefly to Alexandria, and the different Italian ports. The average annual export to Egypt has been estimated at 15,000 bales; but a considerable proportion of this tobacco is of inferior quality, the first cost of which does not exceed nine or ten piastres a bale; while the price of the Yenidje tobacco, which is the best quality, amounts to upwards of forty piastres. The duties on the different kinds are taken *ad valorem*. It is said that the produce of tobacco in Macedonia has considerably decreased within the last ten or twenty years, owing in part to the indirect effects of the war between Russia and the Porte, partly to the prevention of the regular sale in Egypt, by the invasion and subsequent events in that country.

Wool is another article in the trade from Salonica, and in the year already referred to, the export amounted to nearly 1,000,000 lbs. The timber of Salonica is chiefly obtained from the shores of the gulf, particularly in the vicinity of Katrina, and is well adapted to the purposes of ship-building, for which it is conveyed to Malta and other ports of the Mediterranean.

The ordinary imports into Salonica consist of clayed sugars, Mocha and West Indian coffee, dyewoods, indigo, cochineal, muslins, printed calicoes, iron, lead, tin, watches, and various other articles of a miscellaneous kind. The quantity of none of these is very great, but the trade seems capable of extension; and the demand both for colonial and

manufactured goods will probably receive a progressive increase. The commercial events of the last few years have doubtless contributed to this effect, and it is difficult to repel commerce from a ground where it has once freely trodden.

The ships at Salonica lie at anchor before the town, but the form of the gulf renders the harbour a safe one, and the access to it is by no means difficult. The ordinary import and export duties of the place are those common to foreign trade in Turkey, viz. three per cent. *ad valorem;* which duties are always farmed from the Porte by the governor of the city. The present governor, Yusuf Bey, has shown a disposition to encourage trade, which can scarcely excite surprise, considering the large revenues he has latterly drawn from this source. It ought further to be mentioned, however, that the character and government of Yusuf are on the whole beneficial to the inhabitants of Salonica, and that he shows an exemption from many of the prejudices common to his nation. Though habitually reserved in his manner, he appears to have much curiosity and desire of improvement. He generally visits the English ships of war which enter the port, and has himself established a cannon foundery at Salonica, under the direction of a Frenchman, where brass cannon are cast of good manufacture. The wealth of Yusuf Bey is said to be great. His present residence is in the higher part of the city, in a building which exhibits no external magnificence;

but he is about to erect a new palace, which, it is reported, will cost nearly two millions of piastres.

Ishmael Bey of Seres, the father of Yusuf, is one of those individuals, who, in the disjointed Turkish empire, have risen up into a partial independence, retaining a permanent power in their several districts, yet recognising the authority of the Porte, and paying large sums to maintain an interest in the Divan. While Ali Pasha holds in subjection some of the more mountainous parts of Macedonia, Ishmael Bey has long possessed authority over the great plains of this country; and his present jurisdiction is said to extend over a district stretching five days' journey to the north of Salonica. This, according to the common estimate, gives a distance of 100 or 120 miles, but with a very small breadth. The city of Seres, the seat of his government, contains between five and six thousand houses, and many wealthy inhabitants. Ishmael, now an old man, is a native of this country. His power, which has progressively increased during the last forty years, is maintained by a considerable military force; partly also, as it would seem, by the attachment of the population; and still more perhaps by the wealth he has derived from the revenues of a fertile country and a flourishing sea-port. His jurisdiction is uncontrolled by that of the neighbouring Viziers or Pashas, and derives authority from the recognition of the Porte, with which he is said to maintain a good understanding. The power of Ishmael Bey,

however, bears no comparison with that of Ali Pasha; nor has he the character of independent sovereignty which the latter derives from the extent of his territory, from his army, his revenues, and his intercourse with foreign powers. The active ambition of Ali has long been a source of alarm to the Bey of Seres; and but that such an enterprise, in the relative situation of the parties, would be equivalent to a declaration of war against the Porte, it is probable that these apprehensions might be justified by the reality. The immediate vicinity of Ali Pasha's dominions to Salonica has given particular cause for alarm in this quarter; and this feeling has been lately increased by rumours of Albanian soldiers and agents coming over in disguise to disturb and agitate the city. Such rumours may perhaps have originated in the politic caution of Ishmael and his son Yusuf Bey; who have further evinced their fears by fortifying various points on the boundary, and by preventing the reparation of a bridge on the Vardari which had been broken down. It will probably depend less on these precautions than on the future state of the Turkish empire, whether the Vizier of Albania attempts, or refrains from, the enterprise in question.

During the last three days of our stay at Salonica, a northerly wind succeeded to those we before had from the west and south-west, which by their attendant rain and fogs had rendered so comfortless our journey from Larissa. The weather now sud-

denly became very clear and cold, the thermometer, at 8 *a. m.* on the morning of the 3d of December, falling as low as 36°. Salonica is considered an unhealthy place, more especially in the autumnal months, owing to the vicinity of the great marshes at the head of the gulf. Intermittent and remittent fevers are exceedingly common here, and during my stay in the city I was consulted upon several cases of ague, as well as upon some chronic visceral complaints, which from their history were evidently a consequence of old and repeated attacks of these fevers. It would seem that the Peruvian bark as well as other medicines, is very often adulterated in its transit up the Mediterranean. Much of that which is found in the shops at Salonica, and generally employed there in the treatment of agues, can by no means be relied upon for the relief of this disease.

CHAP. XVI.

DEPARTURE FROM SALONICA BY SEA TO ZEITUN. — PROTRACTED AND DANGEROUS VOYAGE. — ISLES OF CHILIDROMI AND SARAKINO. — PIRATES OF THE ARCHIPELAGO. — SKOPELOS. — SKIATHOS. — TRIKERI. — GULF OF VOLO. — COUNTRY ROUND THE SKIRTS OF MOUNT PELION. — PASSAGE UP THE GULF OF ZEITUN. — VIEW OF THERMOPYLÆ.

It was our original design to have returned by land from Salonica to Larissa, but the difficulties we had experienced in traversing this country, disposed us to adopt any other plan that might present itself; and finding a Greek polacca brig about to sail for Zeitun, we decided on taking our passage thither. Zeitun is a port at the head of the Maliac Gulf, and not far distant from the pass of Thermopylæ. Retaining in mind the promise I had given to Veli Pasha, to visit him again at Larissa, it was a part of this new arrangement that I should leave my friend at Zeitun; and, travelling with speed to fulfil my engagements at the former city, should rejoin him at the same place for the prosecution of our journey towards Athens. We left it to the option of the Tartar Sulema, whether he would embark with us for the sea voyage, or return by land to Larissa, and were not dissatisfied that he adopted the resolution of accompanying us.

The wind and weather augured favourably for

our voyage, when we sailed from the bay of Salonica, on the evening of the 5th of December, and we had reason to believe that two days would bring us to our destined port. These predictions were lamentably mistaken in the event. For thirteen successive days we remained upon the sea, suffering under every circumstance which might render a voyage comfortless and distressing, and deriving consolation only from a critical escape of the greater evils of shipwreck. The day after our departure from Salonica, we proceeded slowly down the gulf with little wind, but a heavy and lurid sky, with broken masses of dark cloud, from which our captain derived evil prognostics. The interesting character of the shores was not lessened to us, however, by this state of the weather. On our right hand were the richly-wooded plains of Katrina, and those of the mouth of the Peneus, with the heights of Olympus and Ossa forming a magnificent barrier behind. On the opposite side, the eye reposed first on the peninsula, anciently called Pallene: the promontory of Posidium was distinctly to be seen as we sailed along the coast; and the observation of the isthmus connecting the peninsula with the main-land, allowed us to discern more remotely the general situation of Potidæa and Olynthus; cities which gained celebrity in the wars between Philip and the Athenians. The peninsula of Pallene, which nowhere rises into lofty hills, is fertile and well cultivated, yielding a considerable quantity of grain for exportation. Beyond the

gulf of Cassandria (the Toronaic of the ancients), which form its eastern boundary, another low and narrow peninsula stretches in a south-east direction into the Archipelago. Over these peninsulas, and two intermediate gulfs, we saw the lofty pinnacle of Mount Athos rising in the distance; appearing from this point of view as a vast insulated cone, with a smaller conical eminence arising from one of its sides. The modern name of this celebrated hill is Monte Santo; and its reputation among the modern Greeks is derived chiefly from the numerous assemblage of monasteries, which are situated on the lower part of the mountain.

On the night of the 6th, a high wind came upon us from the south-west, and we were driven so far to the eastward of our course, that the following morning we found ourselves not far distant from the promontory of Mount Athos, which rose majestically through the dark and broken clouds that hung upon its sides. At noon, after a gloomy calm of half an hour, the wind suddenly went round to the north, and within twenty minutes of its commencement, blew with an extreme degree of violence. It was one of those extraordinary gusts which are common in the Mediterranean during the winter season, especially in those parts of the sea where there are deep inlets towards the north, as the gulf of Lyons, the Adriatic, and the gulf of Salonica. Our captain, more alarmed than flattered by the event of his predictions, decided upon taking refuge from the storm, in a port between the

two islands of Chilidromi and Sarakino, about seventy miles distant from Mount Athos, in a direction south by west. These islands are a part of that groupe of which Skiathos and Skopelos form the principal features; and they are little known but as the occasional resort of the Archipelago pirates, or as a place of casual shelter to the trading vessels of the Greeks. The sea was running high, and the wind blowing almost with the force of a hurricane, when we entered the strait between the isles, leaving on the left hand another rocky island called Joura. Two anchors were put down, and we lay for an hour under the cliffs which form the southern shore of Chilidromi or Idromo. But as the night advanced, the storm grew yet more violent, the vessel dragged her anchors, and gradually drifted over towards the opposite shore of Sarakino, about three miles distant. At eight o'clock our situation became extremely critical; the night dark; a tempest of wind; thick sleet and snow; a high sea; and the vessel drifting upon a steep rocky coast, which, seen through the obscurity of the night, appeared almost to hang over our heads. We were summoned by the captain to prepare for the worst. We observed him addressing himself fervently to the picture of a saint in the cabin, before which a lamp was constantly kept burning; and each moment we expected to feel the shock of the vessel striking upon the rocks. Meanwhile the crew were not idle. The yards and sails were all got down to diminish the effect of the wind

upon the ship, and a third anchor was thrown out; but what proved of more importance to our safety was the vessel's being driven past a rocky promontory, which forms the entrance to a small bay within Spalmador. Here we were in some degree sheltered from the violence of the storm, and the anchors at length held their ground; but it was a critical escape, and during the whole night we were in alarm, lest the danger should recur upon us.

The view by day-light the following morning did not diminish our sense of the perils of the night. We found ourselves lying at a very short distance from the rocks, and saw a character of coast which would have rendered escape almost impossible, had we been thrown upon it. The wind still continued with great though abated violence, and attended with snow and severe cold. The thermometer at noon did not stand higher than 35°, and this temperature was the more distressing as we had no fuel on board, nor any means of artificial warmth. But for the state of the weather, our situation here would not have been unpleasant. It seemed as if we were lying in a large lake, without any apparent outlet: the land rising steeply on every side, destitute indeed of trees, but covered with wild shrubs, chiefly the arbutus, oleander, and varieties of ilex. We were prevented from landing at this time, partly by the heavy surf, still more by our apprehension of the pirates, who frequent these as well as the neighbouring isles; and whose pro-

fession frequently combines together plunder and death. The Archipelago, in its numerous islands and channels, has long been the scene of these maritime depredations; which have derived impunity from the feebleness of the Turkish government, and the peculiar inertness of its marine. The groupe of isles, at the entrance of the gulf of Salonica, has long been a principal resort of the pirates; partly from the number of vessels passing them; partly from the facility with which they can recruit their numbers among the Albanians, who come down upon the coast. Their stations however are shifted, as may best suit the purposes of self-security or plunder; and this uncertainty increases the terror they inspire throughout these seas. Some months before we visited Salonica, they had been very numerous and active on the shores near Katrina; and we heard various anecdotes evincing their boldness, rapacity, and ferocious disposition. Some of these pirates had been taken, and the remainder dislodged from this station; but the passage down the gulf was still considered dangerous for small vessels; and we received many cautions on the subject at Salonica, previously to our embarkation.

That these cautions were not unreasonably given, was sufficiently proved by an event that occurred only nine months afterwards, among the very islands where we were now detained. Baron Von Stackelberg, a German artist of much eminence, who had long resided at Athens, wishing to return to Ger-

many by the way of Salonica, embarked from the gulf of Volo for this port in a small armed vessel. Near the mouth of the gulf of Salonica, this vessel was attacked and taken by the Albanian pirates, who carried Baron Stackelberg to one of the small rocky islands of this groupe; threatening to put him instantly to death, unless he could procure 60,000 piastres (nearly 3000*l.*) to ransom himself from their hands. The captain of the captured vessel was dispatched to Athens to represent the Baron's deplorable situation to his friends there. With some difficulty they obtained a loan of 14,500 piastres; and Baron Haller, his friend and countryman, with generous zeal set out himself to assist in obtaining Stackelberg's rescue. The latter meanwhile was reduced to a dangerous state by the sufferings to which he was exposed; and the only alleviation to these was obtained from the fear of the pirates, that his death might deprive them of the expected ransom. Sixteen days he remained in their hands, before any tidings were received from Athens. At the end of this time Baron Haller reached the retreat of the pirates, having discovered it in a singular way by recognizing at Trikeri his friend's shoes, which were worn by a man, who proved to be the cousin of the pirate captain. The offer of the 14,500 piastres was at first rejected by the pirates; and Stackelberg's life nearly fell a sacrifice to the passion of their disappointment. His captivity was continued, till Baron Haller generously offered to take the place of his

friend; when the pirates, receiving this as a proof that no further money could be obtained, and being alarmed by the report of a frigate in search of them, relinquished their prisoner for the ransom offered, with the additional claim of 6000 piastres for their captain.*

In this unlawful vocation of piracy large row-boats are chiefly employed. They are crowded with men, armed with pistols and cutlasses, who usually attempt to board the vessels on which their attack is made. On this coast the greater number of the pirates are native Albanians; either allured to this occupation by its congeniality with their habits, or driven to it as a resource in escaping from the power of Ali Pasha. It must be remarked, that, on this side the Grecian continent, every desperado is currently called an Albanian; and the reputation of this people for ferocity is such, that the very name is made use of to excite feelings of terror; an opinion which, it must be owned, is not without some foundation in their actual character and habits.

Of whatsoever people the pirate communities are composed, and with every allowance for exaggeration, it is certain that they form a serious impediment to the commerce of these seas, and frequently commit the most audacious acts. Instances

* After the relation of this instance of exalted friendship, it is painful to add, that Baron Haller died at Ampelachia, in the autumn of 1817, of the fever common in Greece. Dr. Brönsted, of Copenhagen, has since written a very interesting narrative of the event recorded above.

of the kind narrated above are not unfrequent, when, having captured merchants, or other persons of respectable rank in life, they avail themselves of the influence of terror, in obtaining bonds for large sums of money; detaining their captives till they have received the price of redemption. The regard to life is small among men who are desperate in their fortunes; and this indifference is of course the same to the life of those who fall into their power. A government, like that of Turkey, would scarcely suppress this system of piracy in any sea; but in the Archipelago, the pirates derive peculiar advantages from the isles which crowd its surface; some of them uninhabited, others having a population easily made subservient to schemes of illegal plunder. Occasional efforts are directed against them by the Turkish ships of war; but in general these attempts serve but to provoke a greater boldness of enterprize. A few months before this time, a vessel of the Grand Signor's anchored in the same port where we had been sheltered from the storm: the crew landed; they were attacked by a body of pirates who happened to be then on the island; eleven were killed; and the remainder with difficulty effected their escape. The trade of the Archipelago will not be freed from these marauders, until the Greeks themselves can establish an armed marine, or some maritime power of Europe find an interest in abolishing the evil. But it would seem that the Mediterranean at large is destined to be the scene of this degra-

dation, and that there is a policy somewhere or other licensing a system, which pursues the work of rapine and slavery on the finest sea in the world. *

Our apprehension of pirates was partially justified by the suspicious appearance of some men on the shore, on the morning after our arrival. Two persons only were first seen, who held out fish to us, and by their signs seemed to invite a landing in the boat. As this continued some time without our answering their motions, three others appeared suddenly, who seemed to have been concealed among the shrubs which covered the shore. They remained a few minutes on the beach, and then retired from our view. The following day the storm still continued, though with less violence; but on the morning of the 10th, finding ourselves still detained by adverse winds, we ventured on shore with the boat's crew, taking precautions against any sudden surprise. This care eventually proved

* More than once, during my voyage in the Mediterranean, I have been a witness of the piratical tyranny exercised in these seas by the Barbary Corsairs. Near to the isle of Majorca, I saw the Algerine squadron pursuing, with intent to capture, two Greek ships, probably belonging to Hydra. Off the bay of Cagliari, a few days afterwards, I had the opportunity of seeing a pirate squadron with the red flag of Tunis, which, after chacing another Greek vessel into a port on this coast of Sardinia, landed a body of armed men, who carried off nine of the inhabitants into slavery. A month before this time, a single Tunisian ship had forcibly taken off twenty-nine peasants from the same coast. These outrages are constantly occurring in a sea which washes the shores of a large part of civilized Europe.

unnecessary. We met with two shepherds only,—men, who from the rudeness of their dress and exterior, might have been thought belonging to savage life, but who appeared gratified in seeing us, and eagerly gave a large wooden bowl of goat's milk, in exchange for the bread which we proffered to them. They spoke a rude form of the Romaic language; in which they told us that their life was passed among this groupe of isles, in the care of their sheep and goats; that they had come to Sarakino a few days ago; and that they lived here, and in other uninhabited islands of the vicinity, in caves or in huts made of stones and brush-wood. They informed us that there had been pirates here a few weeks ago, but believed they were now gone to the neighbouring isle of Skopelos. Of the people whom we had seen on the beach two days before, they either knew or professed to know nothing.

The isle of Sarakino, which our mariners called Spalmador, is a narrow ridge of rock, stretching in a crescent-like form from east to west; its length eight miles; its breadth no-where exceeding two. The port is on the northern side of the island; a deep secluded bay, sheltered by the surrounding rocks, and to the north by the extension of the opposite island of Chilidromi. This bay has ten, fifteen, and twenty fathoms water very near to the shore: in the strait between the two isles, the depth varies from twenty to fifty fathoms. The

rock is entirely calcareous, having the character of a coarsely crystallized marble, and without any vestige of organic remains. The highest point of the isle may be about six hundred feet above the sea. Though not much broken in its general outline, the surface is extremely rugged, being every where covered with detached fragments of rock, among which the arbutus, the *Cistus ladaniferus*, and the *Scilla maritima*, grow in great abundance. The berry of the arbutus was at this time in its perfection; and we carried back with us to the vessel a large supply of this fruit. Eaten with goat's milk and sugar, it formed a very excellent dish; and peculiarly grateful to us at this time, when the small stock of fresh provisions we had laid in at Salonica was drawing towards a close.

Another day's detention induced me to accompany the boat's crew in an excursion to the western extremity of the isle of Chilidromi; where we learnt from the shepherds of Sarakino, that we should find a small village. Besides the Greek sailors, two or three passengers of the same nation were with me in the boat; one of them a native of Mistra, the town which stands near the site of the ancient Sparta. After rowing for six or eight miles between the two islands, we were led to land very hastily on the southern coast of Chilidromi, to avoid a large boat, full of men, which was seen approaching us; and which was considered by our crew as a pirate vessel. The isle of Chilidromi is

about twelve miles in length, but every where very narrow. It is formed of higher land than Sarakino; the surface finely varied, and here and there covered with woods, in addition to the shrubs which grow here as on the neighbouring isle. Much of the rock which I saw was marble, both milk-white and yellow varieties. Near the shore in several places, I observed calcareous strata lying upon the former rock, which from their appearance, and some vestiges of shells, might be regarded as recent deposits. On the beach of the island I found a great deal of sponge, and the squill is extremely abundant here, as well as in Sarakino.

The village of Chilidromi is situated on a hill at the western point of the island; it consists of about 150 wretched cottages, many of which are now untenanted; the inhabitants having deserted the island, in consequence of the alarm and injuries they suffered from the pirates of these seas. The people remaining subsist chiefly upon fish, and the milk and flesh of the goats which feed on the island. In two or three places only, I observed small patches of land under tillage, upon which the peasants were at this time occupied in the labours of the plough; oxen being employed for this purpose, as on the continent of Greece. I went up alone to some of these people, who expressed extreme astonishment at seeing a stranger in the Frank dress upon their solitary island. They accosted me with civility of manner, and asked with much eagerness for snuff

or tobacco; in which request I was unfortunately not able to gratify them. *

Before leaving this island, I ascended a lofty pine-covered cliff which overhangs the sea on its southern coast. From this point, and favoured by the clearness of a frosty sky, I had a remarkably fine view of the eastern coast of the Negropont, and of the high chain of mountains which appears to form the central part of this island throughout its whole length. On the loftier summits of the chain much snow had already fallen. Several other isles of the Archipelago entered into the view from the cliff on which I now stood; Sarakino, with the Adelphi and various other rocky islets which surround it, was in front of me: Skopelos lay at a short distance towards the west: the small isle of Skangero was seen in a southern direction; and beyond and over it, the higher eminences of Skyros, an island known to history as the spot where Theseus died in banishment. Valerius Maximus not improperly calls it *exsule minor insula.* † Beyond Sarakino, the sea lies open in the direction of Lesbos and the Asiatic coast;

* Since my return to England, I have heard the account of an unhappy event, which occurred last year on the coast of Chilidromi, from some misunderstanding between the captain of an English sloop of war, and the natives. The report stated that several of the crew of the English vessel had been killed in the affray.

† Skyros was celebrated for the beauty of its coloured marbles, which appear to have been greatly valued, and much employed by the Romans.

but the interval was too great to allow even fancy to picture to itself the view of these shores.

There is some difficulty connected with the ancient geography of this groupe of isles; nor has it yet been determined with certainty, how we are to affix the names of Peparethos, Icos, and Halonesos, mentioned by various ancient writers. If we might suppose Skopelos to be the isle of Peparethos, we should have Icos and Halonesos as the former names of Chilidromi and Sarakino; but this supposition is perhaps a doubtful one. *

On my return to the vessel at night, I found one of the shepherds waiting my arrival, with his son, a young boy, who was suffering under a chronic ophthalmia, for which the father wished to ask my advice. This man came into the cabin of the vessel, much as a native of the South Sea Islands might have done; gazing with eagerness upon all that was before him, and expressing his pleasure by that uncouth laughter, which marks the extreme of rustic ignorance. Neither the father nor son had ever seen a watch; and this of course excited peculiar admiration and surprise.

On the 12th of December, we availed ourselves of a partial change of wind to quit this port, but it was merely to change the scene of our ill-fortune.

* See Strabo, Ptolemy, and Pliny. A passage in Livy (lib. xxviii. 5.) affords some reason for believing Skopelos and Peparethos to be the same: but it must be owned that the authors of the Greek Modern Geography mention an island called Peperi, as another in this groupe.

Scarcely had we got round the lofty promontory which forms the southern angle of Skopelos, when the wind became more adverse, increased in violence, and finally led us to seek shelter anew in a small bay called Panermo, on this side the island. Here we were detained two days; not, however, without some remonstrance against this delay, as we now began to believe our captain unreasonably cautious and timid; a character not unusual in the trading Greeks of the Archipelago, but which we little expected in him, after hearing that he had sailed round Cape Horn, and passed some years in the Spanish service, on the coasts of Chili and Peru. We found, however, an explanation of his caution, in learning that he was himself in part an owner of the vessel, upon which no insurance had been effected. Such a participation of interest is very common among the masters of the Levant traders; and in the case of the cargo is sometimes extended to every individual of the crew; — a system which has many advantages, as well as certain inconveniences in practice.

The weather still continued extremely cold; the thermometer remaining as low as from 38° to 42°, with a north-west wind. Suffering much from this cause on board our vessel, we landed in Skopelos, and the sailors lighted a large fire of brush-wood, in a cave underneath the sea-cliffs; a spot difficult of access, but which bore the marks of having been often resorted to in the same way, either by pirates, or by those of more lawful oc-

cupation on the seas. The figures of the Greek sailors, and of our Tartar Sulema, crouching round the fire in the deep recess of this cavern, might have formed a fine subject for a picture.

The isle of Skopelos, as its name denotes, is high and precipitous, and throughout its whole circumference, of more than 30 miles, presents a line of lofty cliffs towards the sea. It is considerably larger than Chilidromi; but resembles it in aspect, and evidently belongs to the same formation, detached probably either by a gradual *detritus*, or by some sudden convulsion of nature. In the channel between the two isles, is the insulated rock of St. Elias, which rises precipitously from the sea to a great height, and is obviously a part of the same calcareous ridge. There are two towns in Skopelos; the largest of which, situated on the eastern coast of the island, contains more than a thousand houses, and twelve Greek churches; the other, called Glossa, is situated on the front of a steep hill, which rises from the western coast. The population of the island is exclusively Greek; and, like that of the other isles of the Archipelago, is more immediately subject to the government of the Capitan Pasha, the great admiral of Turkey. This maritime government, on the whole, is much less oppressive than that of the continental provinces; chiefly owing to the diminished facility of access, which, in Turkey, as I have before observed, often determines the comparative freedom of a city or district. The habits of the Turks are

singularly unfavourable to maritime power; and the efforts they have occasionally made on the seas which surround them, have been rather the transient effects of personal activity in the Capitan Pasha of the time, than any permanent capabilities of the nation. The internal government of most of the isles of the Archipelago is left to the Greeks, who compose their population; and the irregular collection of a tribute is almost the only way in which the power of the Porte is manifested in its smaller insular possessions.

The greater part of Skopelos is uncultivated; but there are some portions of land, especially in the vicinity of the town, which produce grain, as well as grapes, olives, and other fruits of this climate. A party of the sailors walked over to the town, while we remained in the port of Panermo, from which it is about five miles distant. Demetrius, who accompanied them, purchased for us some wine of the island, grapes, figs, and a species of cake made of the must of wine, boiled with a certain proportion of flour, so as to form it into a paste sufficiently agreeable in flavour.* The wine of Skopelos has long had repute, and is certainly preferable to many of those of continental Greece. This circumstance may perhaps afford some proof that the ancient name of the isle was Peparethos; the excellence of the Peparethian wine being al-

* This cake in its composition somewhat resembles the *mustaceum*, or bride cake of the Romans, which we find described by Cato, de R. R. cap. 121.

luded to by various writers, and particularly by Pliny, who mentions that the physician Apollodorus strongly recommended its use to King Ptolemy; adding, that it was not agreeable till it had been kept six years. * The inhabitants of the isle are described to be an active industrious people, though without much education or refinement. The modern Greeks, like their ancestors, are fond of discriminating the peculiar character of the population, even in small districts and towns; and a recent geographical work in the Romaic language, which I have already referred to, is remarkably minute in giving such characteristics for the localities in this part of Greece, of which the authors were natives. Their description of the people of Skopelos and Skiathos is quoted below, and shows copiousness of epithets, whatever may be the accuracy of the picture. †

On the 14th we sailed from Panermo, endeavouring to reach either the gulph of Volo or the island of Skiathos; but the wind was still adverse, and after advancing ten or twelve miles our captain sought shelter in the port of Agnotas, on the western side of Skopelos, and some distance to the south of

* Plin. lib. xiv. cap. 7. Demosthenes speaks also of the wines of Peparethos, and Ovid describes the isle as "nitidæ ferax olivæ." Metam. lib. vii. 470.

† In the Γεωγραφια Νεωτερικη, the inhabitants of Skopelos are stated as being επιμελεῖς, φιλοτιμοι, εγχειρηματιαι, χαροποιοι, φιληδονες, αμαθεις ομως, ακαταστατοι, ελαφροι. Their less estimable neighbours of Skiathos are described as οκνηροι εις ακρο, αμαθεις, ολιγȣ πνευματος, ρυπαροι, οι προεστοι υπερηφανοι και ματαιωμενοι πως ειναι ευγενεις, &c.

the town of Glossa. This coast, though high, is more fertile than the southern, and exhibits traces of a better cultivation. The port of Agnotas, winding between limestone cliffs, forms a deep and secluded bay, which seems as a small inland lake, and affords an excellent harbour to the traders of these seas. We found here three Greek vessels, driven in like ourselves, either by a real or supposed necessity, and lying closely moored under the cliff. Besides these vessels, we saw in the bay of Agnotas the wrecks of two small sloops, which, we were told, had belonged to the pirates of the isles.

On the 15th we again put to sea; and, passing several small isles, covered with oaks, pines, and shrubs, approached the shores of Skiathos, and sailed slowly along the south coast of this island. The name of Skiathos is asserted to be derived from the fact, that at the rising of the sun in the summer solstice, the shadow of Mount Athos is projected thus far over the intervening sea.* The island is somewhat larger than that of Skopelos, and the soil more fertile; but its inhabitants are in bad repute among their neighbours for the want of industry and integrity; and there seems some foundation for one part at least of this charge, since their lands are cultivated in great measure by peasants who come over from Skopelos and the Negropont. The town of Skiathos stands on a

* Pliny speaks of the shadow of this mountain as stretching to Myrrhina in Lemnos, when the sun is going down.

peninsula on the north side of the island, and contains about 200 houses. On the southern coast is a wide and secure port, with a small town near it, called Oraio-Kastro. A Greek bishop resides in the island, taking his title conjointly from Skiathos and Skopelos, over both which isles his jurisdiction extends.

The coast of the continent opposite Skiathos was the scene of the first great calamity which befell Xerxes in his Grecian expedition. A sudden storm from the east drove a number of his vessels upon the coast; where, according to Herodotus, more than five hundred were wholly lost, together with many men, and much of the provision and treasure belonging to the army.*

On the evening of this day we entered the strait between the northern coast of Negropont, the ancient Eubœa, and that part of Thessaly which was formerly called Magnesia; and when the night closed upon us, were off the high and precipitous cape which limits, on the eastern side, the entrance to the gulf of Volo. This was the promontory Œantium of the ancients. It derives its present name from the town of Trikeri, which has an extraordinary situation on its western front, high in level above the sea, but surmounted behind by the

* This part of the sea between the gulph of Salonica and the Negropont appears to have been anciently called *Artemisium*, probably from a temple of Diana, which stood on the coast at the south-east angle of Magnesia. The mountain called Tisæus, mentioned by Apollonius Rhodius, is easily recognized in its situation to the east of Trikeri.

conical summit of the promontory of yet greater height. This town is one instance, among many others, of the irregular distribution of territory and government in Turkey. It is of very modern origin, no long time having elapsed since the Trikeriotes inhabited a small island called Trikeri, in the strait between Eubœa and the main-land. From this spot they were driven by the frequent and destructive incursions of the pirates; and by a common consent they transferred their name and abode to the peninsular promontory on which the town now stands. Its situation, and other circumstances, have hitherto procured an exemption from the power of the Vizier of Albania, and the place is subject to the court of Constantinople and the Capitan Pasha. It enjoys, however, much more actual liberty than is common among the Greek towns; and the effect of this, as well as of its favourable position, has been that of creating an extensive and prosperous commerce. Placed at the entrance of the gulfs of Volo and Zeitun, it commands a large traffic in corn, oil, and the other products of the country, and carries on also a valuable export trade in the sponges which are gathered in abundance on these shores. The town contains about 400 houses, and the population is exclusively of Greeks. The occupations of almost all the inhabitants are those connected with the sea and commerce, and they have obtained a high repute for industry and enterprize. Many of the Greek merchants of the place are possessed of

considerable wealth, derived from their trading adventures: they are become extensive ship-owners, and employ their capital actively in the furtherance of their various traffic.

A few years ago, M. Gropius, now better known as one of the German residents in Athens, obtained the appointment of English Vice-Consul at Trikeri, as a place subordinate to the consulship at Salonica. Either from commercial jealousy, however, or other causes of disagreement, the merchants of Trikeri violently opposed themselves to M. Gropius; and after a short residence there, the grounds of quarrel became so multiplied and personal, that this gentleman was compelled to leave the place, to which he has since not been able to return. The importance of Trikeri as the situation of an English resident would probably be in reference to the timber of the Negropont: in this island, and particularly in the northern parts of it, there are extensive forests of oak, much of the timber of which is of large size, and well adapted to the purposes of ship-building. A certain quantity is at present cut down every year; and though the Turkish population of Negropont is notorious throughout Greece for its peculiar bigotry and harshness, it does not seem that any particular impediment is thrown in the way of this traffic. The government of the island, conjointly with a district of the opposite continent, is in the hands of a Pasha; and an arrangement with this governor, whose provincial authority is probably sufficient for the purpose, might pro-

cure a regular and large supply of timber from the forests of the country. In the event of this becoming a national object, Trikeri would be a desirable situation for an English resident; combining also the advantage of position at the opening of the two gulfs, which form the principal outlets for the produce of Thessaly.

The gulf of Volo, expanding from the channel underneath the promontory of Trikeri, forms a large semicircular bay towards the north, penetrating deeply into the district of the ancient Magnesia, and surrounded by mountains, some of which are well known to classical lore. The gulf itself was the Sinus Pagaseticus, or Pelasgicus of the ancients, consecrated to history as the first scene of the memorable Argonautic expedition. Iolcos, the spot from which Jason is said to have embarked his band of adventurers, was at the head of this * inlet. It exists no longer; but nature is more durable in her features, and the celebrated Pelion is seen rising from the shores of the gulf, its sides covered as in ancient times with forests of venerable growth, springing perhaps from the same soil as those from which the ship Argo was framed. † The name of Pelion is consecrated by other recollections as the region of the Centaurs, and as one of the hills by which it was fabled that the Giants meant to climb the heights of Olympus, and to dethrone the sovereign of the gods. The respective forms of

* Meletius, but on doubtful authority, has placed the site of Iolcos on that of the modern Volo.

† Πηλιον ειναιφυλλον. Il. ii. v. 757.

Ossa and Pelion explain well that part of the fable which supposes the former mountain to have been placed upon the latter. Ossa has a steeply conical form, terminating in a point. Pelion, on the other hand, exhibits a broad and less abrupt outline. As it is viewed from the south, two summits are seen at a considerable distance from each other, — a concavity between them, but so slight as almost to give the effect of a table-mountain, upon which fiction might readily suppose that another hill like Ossa should recline. The trees upon the sides and skirts of Pelion are chiefly the beech, chesnut, and plane, of which the chesnut-trees in particular are remarkable for their size and venerable age.

The gulf of Volo took its ancient name from Pagasæ, the port of the city of Pheræ. This city, situated near the lake Bœbe, and ten miles from the head of the gulf, is well known to history from the character of its three successive monarchs, Lycophron, Jason, and Alexander; but I am not aware that any ruins exist to testify its exact position. The modern town of Volo is finely situated at the head of the gulf, and contains about 700 houses, chiefly built of stone. In the same district is the large and populous town of Makrinitza, said to contain nearly 1200 houses, and surrounded by a country which, though hilly, is extremely fertile in its produce of oil and wine. The population is Greek, and enjoys a comparative political freedom in forming a part of the property of the Sultan's sister, without being subject to any

provincial government. Numerous other towns or villages are scattered over the hilly and richly-wooded country round the skirts of Pelion, in the district of the ancient Magnesia; the inhabitants of which are partly engaged in agriculture, partly in manufactures connected with those of Ampelachia. The gulf of Volo forms the principal outlet for this tract of country, and from hence there is a large annual export of wheat, oil, tobacco, sponges, &c. — which trade is entirely carried on in Greek vessels, manned by seamen of the country.

A minute description of the towns and villages in this flourishing tract of country is given in the Modern Greek Geography; the authors of which were natives of Melies, a town on the skirts of Pelion. The inhabitants of the district are usually called Zagoriotes in the Levant; from a village, or rather groupe of villages, called Zagora, where there is a considerable school. The Greeks throughout the whole of this region, from Tempe to the gulf of Volo, enjoy certain advantages in situation and commerce, which have already been noticed in the case of the Ampelachians, and which afford them more liberty and greater scope for exertion, than are common to most of their countrymen. Much of the literature of modern Greece has come from this quarter. Anthimus Gazi, the conductor of the Ερμῆς ὁ Λογιος at Vienna, is a native of Melies. He has compiled an Hellenic and Romaic Lexicon, of which two volumes are now published, and reputed to possess much merit. He

also published in 1799, in the Romaic language, the Philosophical Grammar of our countryman Benjamin Martin, under the title of Γραμματικη τῶν Φιλοσοφικῶν Επιστημῶν. Kavra, a physician of Ampelachia, has translated the Arithmetic and Algebra of Euler, and also the Abbé Millot's Elements of History. Daniel Philipidi of Melies, the town above mentioned, has published translations of Lalande's Astronomy, and of the Logic of Condillac.

Velestino, a town near Volo, is the birth-place of the unfortunate Rega; a Greek, whose memory is endeared to his countrymen, as well by his writings, as by the fate he met with, while labouring for the liberties of his country. His active zeal at the time of the French revolution rendered him obnoxious at Constantinople, and he was way-laid and murdered near Belgrade. Besides many patriotic songs and ballads, some of which have been made known to the English reader, he translated several works from the French and German into his native language. His friend Coronius, who was murdered at the same time with him, was the author of Greek translations of Gesner's Death of Abel, of the Galatea of Florian, and of the New Robinson Crusoe and Psychologia of Camp.

The rocks about Trikeri and the gulph of Volo are primitive, consisting chiefly of marble, mica-slate, talc-slate, serpentine, &c. Connecting this observation with those previously made, it will be found that nearly all the coasts bordering on the gulf of Salonica belong to the primitive form-

ations; and it is worthy of remark that the part of the country intervening between Ossa and the strait of Eubœa, contains a large proportion of the Magnesian class of rocks. I have seen some fine specimens of asbestus, amianth, &c. from that part of it in the vicinity of the gulf of Volo. The Negropont, which forms a continuation of the same line, also contains a good deal of serpentine in the ridge of mountains which runs through this isle.

Our voyage was still retarded by adverse winds, and two days were occupied in the passage from Trikeri up the gulf of Zeitun. It was scarcely possible, however, to regret this delay, while enjoying the magnificent beauty of the shores which surrounded our inland navigation. On the left hand were the fertile plains and richly-wooded hills which form the coast of Eubœa, gradually rising towards the mountains in the centre of the isle: on our right we had the bold outline of the Thessalian coast, with the ridges of Pelion and Othrys in the back-ground: in front of us we saw in the distance the loftier summits of the chain of Œta, deeply covered with their winter snows. As our vessel slowly proceeded up the gulf, I observed near its northern shore the two steep and insulated rocks, anciently called Deucalion and Pyrrha, which mark the point upon the coast where the region of Pthiotis succeeds to that of Magnesia. At some distance beyond, but removed two or three miles from the shore, was the site of Cremaste, or the Pelasgic Larissa; a city rendered il-

lustrious as the capital of Achilles; whose territory, as we learn from Homer, extended along this coast to the head of the Maliac Gulf and the banks of the Sperchius, comprising the wide and fertile plains which intervene between the mountain-chains of Othrys and Œta.

The region of Pthiotis, one of the five divisions of ancient Thessaly, is further remarkable in history as one of the earliest seats of the Hellenians or Helladians; that people, who, after various intermediate habitations, appear at length to have formed the basis of the great Doric emigration which carried their name, as well as the dialect and government of this northern part of Greece, into every part of the Peloponnesus. Pthiotis formed a part of the ancient kingdom of Deucalion, the alleged founder of the Helladian race *; and the Grecian history of the deluge connects that event with this part of Thessaly, as well as with the country further to the west, bordering on the river Acheloùs. This region is traversed from east to west by the chain of Mount Othrys, forming the northern boundary of the gulf, and of the broad valley of the Sperchius, further to the west. Of this chain, which may be considered as connecting itself with Pelion towards the east, the loftiest point is near the head of the gulf, formed by ridges which successively

* See Herodot. lib. i. 56. — Hellenus, from whom this people derived their name, was son to Deucalion, and their later appellation of Dorians was obtained from Dorus, the son of Hellenus.

recede from the shore to a central point, at some distance from the coast. There is a gracefulness in the outline and general contour of the mountain, derived in part from this gradual recession of its ridges; partly from the luxuriant vegetation, and the foliage of the olive-groves which cover its lower slopes towards the sea. Lucan calls it the "ne- "morsous Othrys *;" and though Virgil applies the epithet of "Othryn nivalem," yet at this time, the 17th December, there was scarcely any snow upon it. † The height of the mountain, however, is very considerable, and perhaps there would be no exaggeration in supposing it to exceed 3000 feet.

The scenery became still more interesting as we advanced towards the head of the gulf; where the channel, leaving a wide bay to the north-west, makes a sudden turn round the angle of Eubœa, and takes a south-east direction to form the sea of Eubœa, and the celebrated strait of the Euripus. It seemed here as if we were in a great inland lake, girt round by a magnificent outline of mountains, promontories, and vallies. The point of Eubœa, round which the channel winds, forms a lofty conical hill, ascending from the sea in a slope, richly cultivated, but broken at intervals by masses of rock projecting from the surface, amidst which stands the small town of Lithada. This, which was formerly the promontory of Ceneus, is finely opposed to that of Echinus, and to the fertile slopes and swelling

* Lucan. Phars. lib. vi. 338. "Piniger Othrys," Valer. Flacc. vi. 392.

† Æneid. lib. vii. 675.

ridges of Mount Othrys, on the northern side the channel. The eye, carried along the latter shore, where it sweeps round toward the north-west, to form the Malaic bay, reposes for a moment on a broad valley, bounded on each side by a precipitous barrier of mountains, through which the Sperchius flows to the sea. The mountains forming the southern boundary of this valley belong to the great chain of Œta; a magnificent groupe, which occupied the whole of the landscape in front of us, presenting to the sea a line of cliffs of vast height, and almost perpendicular in form; and beyond these, numerous elevated summits passing into the remote distance. But the point which most interested us in this view, was the place of the ever-memorable Thermopylæ; a spot which more than almost any other historical scene, has been sanctified by the veneration of succeeding ages. At this moment indeed, looking upon it in front, we did not see the Pass as a distinct feature; but its situation was indicated by the heights of Œta approaching the sea, near to the mouth of the Sperchius; and its importance testified by the view of this mountain-chain, extending itself far towards the west, to form, in conjunction with Pindus, a barrier between the northern and southern parts of Greece.

CHAP. XVII.

STELIDA.—ZEITUN.—JOURNEY THROUGH THE SOUTHERN PART OF THESSALY TO LARISSA.—PASS OF THOMOKO.—FIELD OF PHARSALIA.—ARRIVAL AT LARISSA.—INTERVIEW WITH VELI PASHA.—RETURN TO ZEITUN.—DANGEROUS PASSAGE OVER THE CHAIN OF OTHRYS.

On the afternoon of the 17th of December, we cast anchor opposite to Stelida, a small town, built on the ascent of a hill, near the northern extremity of the gulf. Beyond this point to the mouth of the river, the water has been rendered very shallow by the deposit of alluvial soil, which makes it necessary for all vessels coming to the gulf to take in their cargoes here. Whether the situation of Stelida corresponds with that of the Thebes of Thessaly, which Livy describes as the only maritime emporium of Pthiotis, I will not pretend to determine.* We landed here, and entered the town, which is rendered agreeable by a grove of olives and orange-trees surrounding it. Our Tartar conducted us to the habitation of the Aga commanding the place, whom we found sitting on a cushion in a small room, with several Albanian soldiers attending him; himself an Albanian, and habited in the costume of his country. The subjection of Thessaly to Ali Pasha has introduced into every part of the country

* Lib. xxxix. cap. 25. Ptolemy and Strabo disagree materially about the situation of this place.

these fierce-looking subjects of his western territory, who are well fitted to maintain his power. The Aga received us with politeness; gave us coffee and pipes; and there being no horses in the town, provided asses for our conveyance to the city of Zeitun, which is about ten miles distant.

After the long delay in our voyage, I was anxious to commence immediately my journey to Larissa; the winter being now so far advanced as to make it desirable that we should reach Athens as soon as possible. I set out, therefore, the same evening for Zeitun, attended by Sulema and Demetrius; my friend, meanwhile, returning to the vessel, to wait there till Demetrius had provided a residence in the town, where he might remain during my absence. The Spartan who had been our fellow-passenger from Salonica, a tall and robust man, was desirous also of reaching Zeitun this evening, but could not procure either horse or ass to carry him thither. Hearing him utter many complaints on this subject, I expressed surprise that he could not resolve to walk thus far; and pointing across the gulf to the pass of Thermopylæ, which was distinctly seen from the eminence where we stood, asked him whether he believed his ancestors, under Leonidas, had come on horseback to defend Greece against the Persians? I knew that he was acquainted with the history of this place, as he had already pointed it out to me while sailing up the gulf. He appeared to feel my remark more than I had expected; but the suggestion was of no avail, and

he chose to return to the vessel, rather than degrade himself by travelling on foot. This feeling is habitual in the country; and neither Turk nor Greek, above a certain rank, will submit to be seen as pedestrians otherwise than in tardily pacing through the streets of their towns.

The road to Zeitun conducted us along the skirt of the hills which border on the gulf, rising into the chain of Othrys towards the north. We were benighted before our arrival at the city; but the light of a full moon guided our way, and gave at the same time an obscure grandeur of effect to the remarkable landscape which lay before us. The night was perfectly serene; the unruffled surface of the bay reflected from the moon-beams a softened light which was strikingly contrasted with the dark cliffs of Thermopylæ, rising abruptly from the opposite shores, and broken at intervals by deep hollows and recesses of the mountain. The snow-covered summits of Œta appeared in the distance with a faint aërial outline, which might almost have been thought a delusion on the sight. The course of the Sperchius was marked by a track of silvery light, winding through the broad valley beneath us, and finally mingling with the waters of the gulf. To this river Achilles made a vow of his hair, should he return in safety from the walls of Troy, — a vow of which his fate prevented the fulfilment. It is one of the most considerable of the Grecian streams, and though no longer the Sperchius of ancient times, yet its later name of Hellada consecrates to

memory the history of the country through which it flows. *

Zeitun is situate on the ascent of a hill, on the northern side of the valley, and at the distance of about three miles from the river. The summit of the hill, which is of conical form, is crowned by the remains of a castle of considerable extent. The effect of the buildings of the town, rising above each other on this steep ascent, and on other adjoining eminences, is at once singular and picturesque. In the lower part of the town are several mosques, surrounded as usual by cypresses; some of which trees are here of remarkable size. Zeitun contains about 600 houses, and a population partly Turkish, partly Greek. The commerce of the place is rendered considerable by the large produce of grain in the valley of the Hellada, and in other districts of this country; the greater part of which is brought down to the gulf for exportation. The inland navigation afforded by this arm of the sea, is very beneficial to the interior of Thessaly; and the more so, as, with the exception of Volo, there are no ports on its eastern side to give an outlet to the produce of its plains.

There can be little doubt that the site of Zeitun corresponds with that of the ancient Lamia, the city where the Macedonian Antipater sustained a

* There is reason to believe that this change of name, in common doubtless with many others in Greece, took place during the period of the later Greek empire. The Scholiast upon a funeral oration composed by Manuel Palæologus, says, that from his time, the Sperchius received the name of Hellas.

siege, and finally repelled the Athenian general Leosthenes; and which was afterwards besieged by the last Philip of Macedon, when allied with the Romans against Antiochus.* Livy, in describing the latter event, mentions the difficulty the Macedonians experienced in making their mines, in consequence of the quantity of flint in the rock. It is worthy of notice that Zeitun stands on that calcareous formation so common in Greece, which is remarkable from the quantity of silex it contains, — a proof of the accuracy of the historian's narrative. At some distance to the east of the town, I observed a large stream, which might admit the name of river, bursting forth suddenly from underneath these rocks, and flowing towards the sea.

It was too late when I arrived at Zeitun to apply to the Bey of the city, and I took up my night's lodging in the wretched apartment of a Khan. At an early hour the following morning, I set out on my journey for Larissa; the Tartar having made use of his passport to procure post-horses of a better kind than those to which we had been accustomed. Besides the *sourudze* who had charge of these, another Turk from the post-house attended me, who, though his dress somewhat resembled that of a

* Strabo describes it as thirty stadia from the river, which corresponds with the actual distance of Zeitun. Livy, who is more minute, mentions its position on a hill, overlooking the broad valley between the city and Heraclea, at the entrance of Thermopylæ; which town the Romans were besieging at the same time that Philip directed his force against Lamia. Lib. xxxii. 4.; xxxvi. 25.

Tartar, appeared to have no other office than that of urging the horses forward with his whip. Demetrius remained at Zeitun, to prepare for my friend's arrival there.

Larissa is distant from Zeitun about sixty miles, in a northerly direction. We commenced our route by ascending the chain of hills prolonged from Mount Othrys, and forming the northern boundary of the valley of the Hellada. These hills send down numerous successive ridges, with deep intervening hollows, at right angles to the direction of the valley. The country is open, bleak, and uncultivated; the rock still entirely calcareous. Towards the higher part of the ascent, there is a *derveni*, or pass, guarded by Albanian soldiers; just beyond which, the situation of the road affords a very remarkable view of the valley of the Hellada. The eye follows it, for at least thirty miles, in a direct line towards the east-north-east, for many miles continuing very broad, and with a perfectly level surface; then gradually contracting, and ascending upwards among the mountains, from which the Hellada has its origin. These mountains are near the central part of the Grecian continent, where the chains of Œta and Pindus connect themselves with each other, and with that of Parnassus approaching from the south. Looking up the valley in this direction, I saw in the distance a very lofty snow-covered summit, which I conceive to be the Mount Tymphrestus of the ancients.* From the same point also, I enjoyed a

* See Strabo, lib. ix. cap. 6.

striking view of the whole groupe of Mount Œta, on the opposite side the valley, and particularly of the vast cliffs which descend from these mountains even to the very level of the river, forming a singular contrast with the dead level of the plain, through which it flows.

The valley of the Hellada is well cultivated throughout the greater part of its extent, the produce being chiefly grain; and where it descends into the low lands near the sea, it affords a luxuriant pasture to the horses and sheep, which graze in vast numbers over its surface.

This extraordinary landscape is very interesting in a geographical point of view. It shews all the eastern part of that great mountain-barrier which traverses in this place the continent of Greece; and in the continuity of the precipitous outline presented to the eye, explains all the importance of that narrow but celebrated pass, where the Greeks so well fought for the liberties of their country.

Passing over some miles of an open rugged country, at the summit of this chain of hills, we descended to the Khan of Berbent, about ten miles from Zeitun. Thence we continued our descent into an extensive plain; at the western extremity of which is a lake, ten or twelve miles in circumference, with two or three small villages near its banks. We passed within a short distance of one of these villages called Douchori, which my guides informed me was the private property of Ali Pasha. The landscape here would be pleasing, were it not

for the deficiency of wood, which is common to all the plains of Thessaly. I am not aware that this lake is mentioned by any ancient writer; and from its situation on a high level, the waters, now accumulated here, might formerly perhaps have been carried off by artificial means. On the northern side is another range of hills, low in their elevation above the plain, but which may also be considered to form a part of the chain of Othrys. On their ascent stands the small town of Avrachi, inhabited by husbandmen and shepherds, and belonging to the private property of Veli Pasha. *

Continuing our progress for some miles over this second range of hills by a rocky and broken road, we came suddenly to the summit of a ridge, which breaks off abruptly towards the north, forming a boundary on this side to the central region of Thessaly, — those great plains which we had before traversed, in descending along the course of the Peneus to Larissa and Tempe. I know not that I have ever seen a landscape more singular and magnificent in its features than the one which was before me at this spot, rendered more extraordinary by the suddenness with which it met the eye, and by its contrast with the previous scenery

* Were I to venture a conjecture, I should say that this district may possibly have been the situation of Melitæum or of Halos, cities mentioned by ancient geographers, but the exact position of which has not been ascertained. See Thucyd. lib. iv. 147. Herodot. lib. vii. 197. Also the note of the editors of the French Strabo, tom. iii. p. 498

through which I had been travelling. At the moment I arrived on the ridge, the sun was shining brightly on the plains beneath, producing an effect of glittering indistinctness over their surface. It seemed like a vast lake above which I stood; nor was there within a circumference of at least 150 miles, a single elevation sufficient to destroy this resemblance. What is appearance now, might once have been reality; and it is impossible to look down upon this great basin, its flat unvaried surface, and the barrier of mountains every-where surrounding it, without giving faith to the tradition that it was once covered by water. The impression is more forcible from this point of view, than from any other in which I surveyed the plains of Thessaly.

At this important entrance into the plains from the south, stood the ancient city of Thaumaci; and the modern Thomoko occupies the same remarkable site, on a lofty pinnacle of hill, to the left of the ravine along which the road descends. The houses of the town, which is of considerable size, climb the steep declivity of the hill, and the summit is crowned by a castle, which in its situation seems almost to overhang the plains below. The extraordinary view from this spot has not escaped the notice of ancient writers; and Livy asserts, that the name of Thaumaci was obtained, as an expression of its wonderful character. * The

* It has been considered doubtful whether this is the Thaumakia mentioned by Homer, as one of the four towns under the rule of Philoctetes. Iliad. ii. 716. The editors of the French

description given by this historian of the place, and of the landscape, in relating the unsuccessful siege of Thaumaci by Philip, is equally remarkable for accuracy and spirit. From the passage which is quoted below, it will be seen that Livy adopts the same comparison of the plains to a great sea, spread below the eye. * This resemblance is much increased by the particular outline of the mountains forming their boundary, of which I cannot convey a better idea, than by giving Pliny's short but emphatic description of them; "Omnes theatrali modo inflexi, cuneatis ante eos quinquaginta quinque urbibus." † This form of outline is most remarkable on the southern side of the plain, where it is seen to form one vast semicircular sweep, even from the foot of the Meteora rocks, as far as to a ridge of hills which stretch forward into it, a little to the west of Thaumaci. These hills, though of inconsiderable height, yet from their

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Strabo seem to regard the Thaumakia of Homer as situated in Magnesia, but it appears to me more probable, that this was the place designed. Adjoining the modern town are some ruins, belonging perhaps to the ancient city.

* "Thaumaci a Pylis, sinuque Maliaco per Lamiam eunti, loco alto siti sunt, ipsis faucibus imminentes, quas Cœla vocant; Thessaliæque transeunti confragosa loca, implicatasque flexibus vallium vias. Ubi ventum ad hanc urbem est, repente, velut maris vasti, sic immensa panditur planities, ut subjectos campos terminare oculis haud facile queas. Ab eo miraculo *Thaumaci* appellati. Nec altitudine solum tuta urbs, sed quod saxo undique abscisso rupibus imposita est." Lib. xxxii. 4.

† Hist. Nat. lib. iv. c. 8

position conceal that portion of the plains surrounding Larissa; — a contraction of the landscape, which can scarcely be recognized, where all besides is so extensive and magnificent.

Looking from this distant point of view at the hills, on the opposite side of the plain, extending from behind Trikala and Zarko towards Olympus, I found additional cause to believe from their outline, that there is much primitive slate country in this district. The geology of a country, as well as its geography, is often best understood where the eye embraces most in a single view. Such an observation at least, should always, if possible, precede and succeed the examination in detail.

Descending rapidly along the ravine below Thomoko, we arrived at a large Khan, where we halted half an hour, and made a meal on olives, bread, and goats'-milk cheese. At this place, for the first time, my Tartar Sulema shewed himself capable of passion. He wished to buy, or otherwise appropriate, a couple of fowls, which the people of the Khan were unwilling that he should have. Summoned to the place by the screams of women, I found him beating violently with his whip, the Greek who seemed to be master of the Khan; and it was with much difficulty I could persuade him to desist from this exercise, which he accompanied with the strongest epithets of abusive contempt. I satisfied the man by immediate payment; and the fowls were given up to Sulema, and slung by the side of the *sourudze*'s

horse, as the material for the evening's repast. This Khan, judging from the rate at which we travelled, is about 24 miles from Zeitun.

We now entered upon the plains; still, however, skirting along the range of low hills, which was before noticed as intercepting the view towards Larissa. Over the whole of this rich and luxuriant country, scarcely a single tree is to be seen. The tillage also of this part of the plain is very partial and limited, the land being chiefly employed as pasture. Several large villages are scattered over its surface; and our road carried us by, or rather through, two or three Turkish burying-grounds of great extent. There is something impressive in these assemblages of tombs, separated in situation from the abodes of men, but placed in the pathway of the traveller, as if to render the lesson more striking from the manner of its appeal to the mind.

Passing through a narrow defile between limestone rocks, in the range of hills just referred to, we entered the eastern portion of the plain; and just as the moon was rising over the chain of Pelion, arrived at the town of Tzatalze; a place well known to history under the more celebrated name of Pharsalia, and as the scene of the great battle which gave to Julius Cæsar the mastery over the liberties of his country. Tzatalze is the Turkish name of the town, but among the Greeks it is still commonly known by that of Phersala. It is situated underneath a rocky and precipitous front

of hill, probably about 500 feet in height, and forming a semicircular sweep towards the north, on which side the town stands: on this hill are the ruins of the ancient castle of Pharsalia. At the distance of half a mile to the north, flows a small river, which is probably the ancient Apidanus; and beyond this, in the same direction, the plains are open towards Larissa, which is about 22 miles distant. The town is divided into two portions as appears from Strabo to have been anciently also the case; the largest, which is nearly on the level of the plain, inhabited exclusively by Turks; the other situated among the rocks on the ascent of the hill, and with a population entirely Greek. In the Turkish town, there are four mosques, and many large houses. The customs of this people, however, prevented me from obtaining a lodging in a private habitation, and I was conducted to a Khan connected with the post-house of the town. Here I supped and spent the evening in company with four or five Turks; the whole party sitting on mats around the fire. It was a curious groupe; and amusing to me as an exhibition of Turkish social intercourse. The characteristic taciturnity of the nation was shewn in long pauses, which no one thought himself obliged to break, and which were in fact occupied by the assiduous smoking of all the party. When conversation occurred, it was carried on with a brevity of phrase which might have surpassed even that of the old Spartans, and with a perfect sedateness of manner. The distinct

enunciation of the Turks, and perhaps also the simplicity of the Turkish language, increase the effect of this peculiar conciseness; and if the epithet *philosophical* might be applied to manner alone, would almost in this instance warrant its use. A Tartar, just come from his journey, joined our party in the course of the evening. Scarcely had he seated himself, when he took out his coffee-bag and silver cup, which all these people carry about with them, and made his coffee; simply by boiling it for a couple of minutes in a small iron-pot over the embers. This beverage seems indispensible to the existence of the Turk; and a luxury which he cannot forego. At the evening meal of our party, we all eat, in the Turkish manner, with the fingers alone; the ewer and basin for washing being brought round as usual, both before and after the meal.

The battle of Pharsalia was fought on the plain adjoining the town, and immediately below the heights which have been described. It was on these heights that Pompey established his camp before the battle; his army being stationed on different points of their acclivity, which is extremely broken and rugged; the limestone forming itself into cliffs, and masses of naked rock projecting from the outline of the hill. As it was his object to lead Cæsar to attack him while in this position, so was it that of the latter to induce Pompey to descend to a battle in the plain. After a comparative inaction of some days, Cæsar succeeded in

his wishes. The army of Pompey, deriving confidence from its numerous cavalry *, descended further from the position on the heights, and offered battle on equal ground. Its right rested on the banks of a stream, which was doubtless the Apidanus; and the line extended itself westwards, keeping the parallel of the heights in the rear, a position which the actual features of the ground very well illustrate. The skilful manœuvres of Cæsar, and the hardihood of his troops, decided the event. The efforts of the infantry were at first equal, but the cavalry of Pompey, which formed his left wing, and on which he placed his chief reliance for outflanking Cæsar's army, was completely repulsed by a reserve body of infantry destined to this service, and their defeat speedily involved that of the whole army. Pompey with his remaining troops retreated upon the heights: he entered the prætorium of his camp, but was obliged to fly by the soldiers of Cæsar, who had ascended the hill, and stormed the ramparts of the camp. A body of his troops betook themselves to the higher summits of the hill behind it; but lines were drawn around them, their position was destitute of water, and they were compelled to make a circuitous retreat towards Larissa, and afterwards to submit to the clemency of the victor, in a position they had taken a few miles from Pharsalia.

* This army had 7000 cavalry in the field: that of Cæsar only one thousand. The infantry of Pompey was more than double that of his adversary. Cæs. Comment. lib. iii. 30.

Cæsar remained master of the field and of the Roman world.

The neighbourhood of Pharsalia had been previously signalized by the battle between the Romans under Quintus Flaminius and the Macedonians commanded by their king, Philip; in which the latter was defeated with the loss of 13,000 men. This combat, the details of which are given by Polybius and Livy *, and which led to the submission of Philip, took place on the eminences called Cynoscephalæ, to the east of Pharsalia.

At an early hour on the morning of the 20th, I recommenced my journey; and, crossing the stream of the ancient Apidanus †, traversed the plains towards Larissa, at which place I arrived six hours after quitting Pharsalia. Nothing worthy of notice occurred on the route, except a splendid view of Olympus, seen from one point rising immediately over the mosques and minarets of Larissa, and now so deeply covered with snow, that no part of its surface was left exposed above the mountains which lie at its feet. The surface

* Liv. lib. xxxiii. 6. et seq.

† There is some confusion in the account Strabo gives of the Apidanus, and its union with the Enipeus; but it seems most probable that it is the former river which flows in front of Pharsalia; that it is joined by the Enipeus, a branch of which comes from Thomoko, further to the west; and that the united stream flows in a northerly direction to join the Peneus between Zarko and Larissa. The epithet of "senex Apidanus," used by Ovid, (Metam. i. 580.) is well applicable to the tranquil course of this stream through the plains.

of this part of the plain is varied by successive undulations, the lines of eminence having a pretty uniform direction from east to west. Grain is the principal produce of the district, and the appearance of the ploughed lands bore a favourable testimony to the style of cultivation. There are no inclosures, and the deficiency of wood is equally remarkable as in other parts of the plain.

Entering Larissa through its wretched and decaying suburbs, I proceeded to the mansion of the Archbishop, who received me very cordially, and renewed to me at once all the hospitalities of his house and table. I was mortified by learning from him that Veli Pasha had gone a few days before to a hunting residence on the skirts of Ossa, and that the time of his return was by no means certain, though expected every day. This expedition had been planned when I was before at Larissa, and the Pasha had requested, that if I found him absent I would follow him into the country, and stay there as long as was in my power. Desirous of rejoining my friend at Zeitun with all possible speed, I determined to set out the next morning in quest of Veli Pasha, and dispatching my business with him, to return immediately to Larissa. Having formed this resolution, I sat down to enjoy the society of my friend Velara, who came in soon after my arrival, and remained to dinner. My further observation of this man did not change my former opinion of his merits, and I still found cause to admire the strength of his understanding,

his powers of satirical humour, and the extent of his acquirements. The character of the Archbishop's dinner table was now somewhat changed by the ordinances of the great fast, which precedes and attends the solemnities of Christmas in the Greek church. This fast, which continues forty days, is observed in the most rigid manner by the Greeks of all classes. Yet there was little reason to complain of the archipiscopal fare, which, though confined entirely to fish and vegetables, was cooked with such variety of skill that even epicurism might have been satisfied with it.

While strolling along the banks of the Peneus in the evening, I saw a long procession of horsemen approaching the city; and advancing towards them, found with much satisfaction that it was Veli Pasha, with his officers and attendants, returning from the country. In passing near the spot where I stood, the Pasha observed me. He stopped his horse, and accosted me with many expressions of pleasure in seeing me again at Larissa, of which he said, from my long absence, he had begun to despair. He inquired whether I was comfortably lodged in the city, and desired to see me at the Seraglio early the following morning. The horse on which Veli Pasha rode was superbly caparisoned. Albanian soldiers attended him on each side on foot; and other Albanians of higher rank, as well as several of his principal Turkish officers, formed his retinue on horseback;

Mount Ossa from the Banks of the Peneus at Larissa

all richly dressed, and many of them mounted on Arabian horses of great beauty.

I supped alone with the Archbishop this evening, in his private chamber. By the combined assistance of broken French, Italian, and Romaic, we contrived to maintain a long conversation, chiefly regarding the present condition of the Greek church, on which subject he gave me some curious details. He entered into a minute comparison between the government of the Greek and Latin churches; expressed a decided opinion of the superiority of the former, and declaimed with much emphasis against the abuses and absurdities of the Papal system. This separation, he said, from the bosom of the primitive church, was the first great violation of the unity of the Christian world, and the source of almost all the evils and heresies which have since occurred. I ventured to refer to the earlier history of the Greek church, as a proof that schisms might have happened, even without the great leading separation of the Christian church. He continued, however, his invective against the Papal government, and his applauses of the moderate and paternal character of the Greek church; and I found that this was a topic, which might not be contested without the risk of giving offence.

The following morning being Sunday, I again attended the service in the metropolitan church of Larissa. It was nearly the same in form as when I before witnessed it, except that on this occa-

sion, in consequence of the approaching season of Christmas, the Archbishop addressed the congregation in a discourse of some length, and in the Romaic language. The subject, though one of practical morality, and involving but little doctrine, was nevertheless treated with much emphasis, and a vehemence of action and manner, greater perhaps than was correctly suitable to pulpit eloquence. The composition seemed to be in part extemporary, and shewed considerable fluency of language.

At 10 o'clock, a Turk came from the Seraglio, to say that Veli Pasha was waiting to see me. I went thither immediately with the physician Teriano; and found the Pasha sitting with his two sons, and attended by his ministers, Pashu Bey and Achmet Bey. He sent his sons out of the room; desired me to take a place close to him, which they had before occupied, and shewed me a profusion of civilities and attentions. A short interval of time was occupied by enquiries respecting our journey to and from Salonica, and our residence in that city. He asked whether we had seen Yusuf Bey; and was evidently not surprized that his letters had failed, in procuring us any direct attention from the son of Ishmael of Seres. We then proceeded to the medical business which formed the more immediate object of my return to Larissa. Pashu Bey and Achmet Bey were about to quit the room, but Veli Pasha desired them to stay, and they again seated themselves on the

couches near us. In acquiescence with the wishes of the Pasha, I had drawn up in writing my opinion of his case, and of the mode of treatment that might best be pursued for the relief of his various symptoms. This memoir, which was written in Italian, I now presented to him. He desired Teriano to read it aloud with a Greek translation; and while this was done, he continued smoking his pipe, listening with much attention, and occasionally stopping to make enquiries or comments upon what he heard. When the reading of the paper was finished, he renewed to me the same acknowledgments he had before expressed. I now made enquiries as to the symptoms which had occurred during the interval of my absence from Larissa; and these he related to me at great length, and with more judgment and good sense than I could have ventured to expect. Veli Pasha may retain many of the deformities of the Turkish character, but he certainly has got rid of many of its prejudices. Some little change in the state of his symptoms had happened during this interval, which modified to a certain extent my recommendation of an immediate plan of treatment. Though my advice in some respects could not be welcome to him, yet he received it in good part; and promised to adopt, as strictly as possible, all my directions in the method of cure prescribed.

This medical business lasted more than an hour. At the Pasha's desire I remained with him nearly as long, after it was concluded, answering various

inquiries he made respecting England, the political state of Europe, and the ancient history of different places in Greece. Pashu Bey took an active part in this conversation; but Achmet listened in perfect silence, employing his fingers mean-while to taper his mustachios finely to a point, — an occupation very common among the Turkish beaux, who pride themselves on the beauty of this feature. Coffee, sherbet, and pipes were brought round to us as usual by the attendants. Veli Pasha was urgent with me to remain some days at Larissa, and spoke much on this subject: but I pleaded the necessity of immediately rejoining my friend at Zeitun, and with some difficulty obtained his permission to set out the following morning. After an interview of two hours, and the mutual exchange of acknowledgments, I rose to take my leave. He got up himself from his couch, and attended me to the door of the apartment.

In the afternoon of this day, I went with Velara to visit a Greek physician of Larissa, who desired to ask my opinion about a chronic complaint with which he had been long affected. I found him an agreeable intelligent man; intimately conversant with ancient Greek literature, and familiar also with the belles-lettres of France and Germany. The Archbishop brought to me also this evening, for medical advice, one of the ministers of the church, whom I found affected with inflammatory sore-throat, attended with some fever. I was about to administer an emetic to my patient, when

I was told by the Bishop, that this remedy could not now be employed; that he had officiated at mass in the morning, and that the rites of the church rigidly proscribed the act of vomiting so soon after this ceremony. I remonstrated a little on the subject, but ultimately found it necessary to yield, and to adopt other means for the immediate use of my patient, whose prejudices of course went along with those of his superior.

I passed this evening with Velara at his own house, and sat with him till a late hour. During part of the time, our conversation turned upon metaphysical topics; and chiefly on the old Pyrrhonic doctrine of the non-existence of matter. Velara, as usual, took the sceptical part of the argument, in which he shewed much ingenuity, and great knowledge of the more eminent controversialists on this and other similar subjects. He was ignorant, however, of the writings of our countryman Bishop Berkeley, of which I gave him a slight sketch, as bearing upon the topic before us. With the name and philosophy of Hume, I found him already acquainted. Another Greek was with us at the supper-table, who listened attentively to the conversation, but took little part in it. This was the last time of my seeing Velara; and it was with a feeling of no common regret, that I left a man thus eminently gifted by nature and education, yet fated to loiter away his days in the dull and servile routine of a Turkish Seraglio.

On the morning of the 22d of December, I finally

quitted Larissa, departing from the house of the hospitable Archbishop with a thousand good wishes and benedictions, which his kindness bestowed on me. The Tartar Sulema at his own desire, and authorized by Veli Pasha, set out with me again towards Zeitun; our Ioannina Tartar, Osmyn, not meeting me at Larissa, as I had expected. I found that he had returned there from his southern journey, about a fortnight before, but hearing no tidings of us, had proceeded towards Salonica, to ascertain, if possible, what route we had taken. Scarcely had I advanced six miles from Larissa, when I saw a horseman galloping violently after me; and, awaiting his approach, found it to be Osmyn, who had arrived in the city an hour after my departure, had learnt the direction of my journey, and now came up to reclaim his post in my service. He told me he had been as far as Salonica in quest of us, and seemed to consider that his journey gave him an additional right to attend our further progress to Athens. Sulema, however, would not be driven from his situation; and though I had wished to send one of them back to Larissa, I found it impossible to do this, and was obliged to consent that both should accompany me to Zeitun. Notwithstanding this arrangement, they looked at each other with great surliness; and each one, as he happened to be alone with me, endeavoured by various gestures and phrases to interest me in his favour.

I had a dismal ride to Tzatalze, under heavy

and incessant rain, and on roads rendered almost impassable by the quantity of wet which had fallen for the last two days, and which lay in large pools upon the plains. It seemed as if the rainy season, with which we had long been threatened, was now fairly commenced. I gave up all idea of proceeding further than Tzatalze this evening, and took up my lodging there in the Greek quarter of the town, having previously tried in vain to procure shelter under a Turkish roof. The two Tartars slept in the same room with me, and I was much amused by the assiduity of their respective endeavours to recommend themselves to my favour. The superior activity of Osmyn, however, could not be mistaken. He dried my clothes, made me coffee, prepared my supper, and in short was unceasingly occupied in my service. . The Greek family, with whom I lodged, were much alarmed by the presence of the Tartars, and scarcely ventured to shew themselves during my stay in the house.

I found a report prevailing here, which I had heard in several other places, that the English had just given up Santa Maura to Ali Pasha, and that he was immediately going to the coast, with a large body of troops, to take possession of the island. It was easy to conjecture that this could not be true, and the report probably arose from the circumstance of the Vizier's going down to Prevesa at this time, with a body of five or six thousand men, to reside there for two or three months. Such rumours are often circulated, as I learnt, for the

mere purpose of drawing together quickly the Albanian soldiers scattered over the country, who are easily allured by the prospect of an expedition or of plunder.

I was detained at Tzatalze to a late hour the following morning by the want of horses; and those with which we at length set out were, as I afterwards found, forcibly taken by the Turkish post-master from the peasants entering the town, They were of such a description, that before we reached the Khan of Thomoko, the two *sourudzes* were compelled to stop on the way, and never afterwards rejoined us. Osmyn and Sulema, who were now left alone with me, proposed passing the night at the Khan, and pointed out to me the thick and stormy clouds which were gathering in the evening sky. I was anxious, however, to proceed, knowing that my friend expected me this night; and having procured a fresh horse to carry my luggage, we continued our route towards Zeitun. When at the summit of the pass of Thomoko, I looked back for the last time on the great plains of Thessaly; not as I had before seen them, reflecting from their whole surface an unvaried blaze of light, but overhung with dark and broken masses of cloud, admitting at intervals the rays of a declining wintry sun, and giving to this vast landscape a wildness of character which was very imposing. I stopped some time on the summit of the ridge to gaze upon it, and should longer have remained at this spot, but that the Tartars hurried

me on, representing the advanced time of the day, and the nature of the mountain-road before us.

Scarcely had we reached the Lake of Douchori, when the storm by which we had long been threatened, burst at once upon us with violent wind and heavy rain, mixed with sleet and snow. It continued and increased as we ascended the chain of Othrys; and when we arrived at the Khan of Berbent, it was matter of doubt whether we should venture to proceed, or stop for the night at this wretched hovel. After some hesitation we continued our journey. But each moment now became more calamitous to us: the road, in ascending to the higher ridges of the mountain, is narrow, rugged, and dangerous; the night was intensely dark, and the wind and snow beating upon us with unabated violence. When about two miles from the Khan, Sulema and his horse fell together down a precipitous declivity of rock. I was immediately behind him; but, though nothing was to be seen, I fortunately heard the noise of his fall, and stopped in time to save myself from the same misfortune. Drawn to the spot by Sulema's cries, Osmyn quitted his own horse, and with equal boldness and activity explored his way to the spot where his brother Tartar lay. Sulema was recovered, though severely bruised by his fall; and after the interval of about half an hour, the two Tartars rejoined me on the spot where I had remained during this time, without venturing to move a step on any side. The unfortunate horse was left to its fate. We should

now willingly have regained the Khan, but it was as perilous to recede as to advance; and Osmyn, before desirous to halt for the night, was now the first to urge the necessity of going on. Trusting ourselves entirely to his guidance, (for Sulema was at present as little able to act as myself,) we proceeded on foot, and with extreme caution, following the direction of the voice alone, as the obscurity of the night prevented us from seeing more than a few feet on any side. The activity of Osmyn was not less remarkable than his accurate knowledge of this rugged mountain-road; every winding of which seemed familiar to his recollection, as if he had known them from his earliest boyhood. Yet the route was full of peril and difficulty to us; and the six midnight hours which I passed on the ridges of Mount Othrys, exposed alike to the dangers of the precipice, and to the tempest and severity of a December sky, made an impression on my memory which will not soon be effaced. It was three hours after midnight, when we arrived at Zeitun. We luckily encountered a man at the post-house, who told us in what part of the city the Frank stranger was lodged; and proceeding thither, I was fortunate enough to obtain access to the Greek house, where my friend had lived during my absence. Here I found all that was needful to relieve me after the toils of my long and comfortless journey.

CHAP. XVIII.

FROM ZEITUN TO THE PASS OF THERMOPYLÆ. — DESCRIPTION OF THE PASS, IN REFERENCE TO ITS ANCIENT HISTORY. — ASCENT OF THE CHAIN OF ŒTA. — LEUTEROCHORI. — VALLEY OF THE CEPHISSUS. — PASSAGE OVER THE CHAIN OF MOUNTAINS TO SALONA — VIEW FROM THE SUMMIT. — MINERALOGICAL REMARKS.

Having fulfilled my engagement with Veli Pasha, it now became our plan to proceed immediately to Athens, taking, however, a somewhat circuitous route through the ancient Phocis, for the purpose of visiting the site of Delphi, and other objects of interest in this part of Greece. Before quitting Zeitun, we were called upon to decide between the claims of our two Tartars, each of whom was solicitous to attend our journey. We finally gave the preference to Osmyn; who, besides his priority in our service, and his laborious journey to Salonica in quest of us, had a further claim in his superior zeal and activity, of which he had afforded a striking proof in my perilous passage over Mount Othrys. Osmyn, too, had the *Buyrouldi* of Ali Pasha in his hands; and this passport we found so much more efficacious than that of Veli, that it was an important object to keep it by us. In a country, where unhappily so much is effected by the means of terror, the traveller is compelled to submit to

these usages of despotism, and even to avail himself of their influence.

We left Zeitun on the morning of the 23d, directing our course towards the pass of Thermopylæ, which formed the principal object of the day's journey. Traversing the broad swampy plains which form the valley of the Sperchius or Hellada, we crossed this river by a good bridge of modern construction; at no great distance, probably, from the site of the ancient town of Anticyra. * The stream of the Hellada is inferior in size to that of the Peneus at Larissa, though at this time much swelled by the rains which had fallen incessantly for some days past. It enters the bay three or four miles below the bridge, flowing entirely through morasses, and divided into different channels, so as to correspond well with the description Pausanias gives of this part of its course. † It appears certain, however, that since the time of Herodotus the alluvial depositions of the Sperchius have encroached considerably on the bay, so that this river now enters the sea much lower down, than it did at the period when Thermopylæ was signalized by the invasion of the Persians. ‡ From the lowness of the level it is probable that some saline impregnation may be given

* Herodot. lib. vii. 198. Strab. lib. ix.

† Pausan. lib. x. 20.

‡ It appears from the account of Herodotus, that the Asopus and other streams descending from Œta, which now enter the Sperchius, formerly flowed directly to the sea.

to these marshy plains, rendering them more grateful as pasture to the numerous herds of cattle which feed on their surface.

We now entered upon that narrow portion of the plain which lies to the south of the Hellada, intervening between this river and the precipitous cliffs of Œta. It was in this district, which had the name of Trachinia, that the vast army of Xerxes was encamped, while the passage of Thermopylæ was disputed with him by the Grecian * army. Looking over the ground, and recollecting the estimate which Herodotus gives of the number of the Persians, it is difficult not to believe from this observation alone, that the historian has greatly exaggerated their amount; unless indeed we suppose that a large portion of the army was left on the northern side of the Sperchius, or that the multitude extended far to the west up the valley of this river. Presuming, what is probable from the season of the year, that there had been a long continuance of dry weather, we may believe that much of the marshy ground at the mouth of the Sperchius was capable of bearing the march or

* See Herodot. lib. vii. 198. et seq.—The name of Trachinia was derived from the town and fortress of Trachis, situated under the cliffs of Œta, about a mile and a half from the entrance of the pass, and at no great distance from the place where we crossed the Sperchius. This town was rebuilt by the Lacedemonians about 426 years A. C., a few stadia from its ancient situation, and took the name of Heraclea, by which we find it afterwards mentioned. Strab. lib. ix. — Thucydides (lib. iii.) states Heraclea to be 40 stadia from Thermopylæ, and 20 from the sea.

encampment of an army; but with all these allowances, there is strong presumption from the appearance of the ground against the accuracy of the historian's statement.

From the bridge over the river, we proceeded in a south-east direction towards Thermopylæ, having on our right hand the Trachinian cliffs of Œta, which rise above into the lofty summits anciently called Kallidromos and Tichius, impending over the pass. * We were made aware of our approach to this memorable spot, as well by the contracting interval between the cliffs and the sea, as by the columns of vapour rising from the hot springs, which have given origin to the name of the strait. We hastened rapidly towards these springs, which are scarcely two miles distant from the bridge. We observed immediately before us the sacred eminence of Anthela, where the council of the Amphictyons was first assembled; and in the contracted pass in which we now stood, saw the obstacle that prevented the Persians from bursting at once into Greece, — that produced the battle and the glory of Thermopylæ.

The lapse of 2300 years has indeed made certain changes in the character of this spot; yet, nevertheless, its more remarkable features still remain

* See Appian De Bello Syriaco, and Livy, xxxvi. c. 16. — Livy's description of Thermopylæ is extremely accurate, and by a slight geographical sketch he illustrates well its importance to the safety of Greece. The plan of the pass by M. Barbié du Bocage is on the whole exact, and, by extending the bay upwards over what is now marsh, accords with the description of Herodotus.

to attest the integrity of history, and the valour of those who here sacrificed themselves for their country. The traveller must not, it is true, expect to see the waves washing against the narrow road which winds under the rocks of Œta. A low swampy plain, or what, when I saw it, might well be termed a morass, every-where intervenes between the cliffs and the sea; and the alluvial depositions of the Sperchius appear to have been greatest on this side the bay, the river now flowing for some distance opposite and parallel to the pass, before it loses itself in the sea. It is certain, however, that as far back as the time of Herodotus, a morass formed one of the boundaries of the pass even in its narrowest part; and it appears, from his account, that the Phocians had artificially increased this, by allowing the water from the hot springs to spread itself over the surface, with the view of rendering the passage yet more impracticable to their restless neighbours, the Thessalians. * From the later descriptions of Livy and Pausanias, it is probable, that before their time this swampy plain had extended itself, and become more nearly resembling its present state. †

The hot springs form one of the most interest-

* Herodot. lib. vii. 176.

† Livy (lib. xxxvi. c. 18.), describing the attack of the Roman army upon that of Antiochus in the Pass of Thermopylæ, speaks of the "loca usque ad mare invia palustri limo et voraginibus." — Appian, in his narrative of the same Syrian war, describes Thermopylæ as a long and narrow passage: τὴν μὲν θαλασσα τραχεια και αλιμενος, τὴ δε ελος αβατον ἐ και βαραθρωδες. See also Pausanias, lib. vii. c. 15.

ing points in the topography of the place; the same in situation, the same probably in their phenomena, as they were at the remote period of time when Leonidas fought in the Pass of Thermopylæ. These springs issue from four or five different places at the base of the cliffs; and from their locality, as well as from the general outline of the pass, it becomes easy to trace other positions which are important in the history of the spot. The small plain of Anthela, in front of the springs, and intervening between two contractions of the pass, is still distinctly marked; and equally so, the eminence already mentioned adjoining to Anthela, on which, in a temple dedicated to Ceres, the meetings of the Amphictyonic council were held, long before their establishment at Delphi. At a short distance from this spot we noticed the broken fragments of a wall traversing the marsh near the foot of the cliffs—an interesting object, inasmuch as these remains indicate the site of the wall originally built by the Phocians, to oppose the incursions of the Thessalians; afterwards repaired by the Greeks at the time of the Persian invasion *; at a later period renewed and strengthened by Antiochus, when defending himself in the Pass against the Romans †; and, lastly, restored by Justinian, when that monarch sought to secure the tottering empire by fortresses and walls. ‡

* Herodot. lib. vii. c. 176. † Liv. lib. xxxvi. c. 16.

‡ Procopius (De Ædif. lib. iv. c. 2.) describes the works which Justinian erected at Thermopylæ, and makes them the subject of much eulogium.

This point is the most important in the topography and history of Thermopylæ. It may be considered as forming the northern entrance to the strait, and at the same time it is that part where the passage is most contracted by the projection of the rocks towards the sea. It would be difficult to compare together ancient and modern dimensions, where on one side the pass gradually declines into an impervious morass; but it must be confessed, that there is now no place where it will only admit a single chariot to pass at a time, unless we suppose that Herodotus meant to allude merely to the narrowness of the road or track, which even yet is in many places extremely limited by the rocky nature of the ground underneath the cliffs. Livy, speaking of this as a military passage, states its breadth at sixty paces. I visited Thermopylæ during the wet season, and after a continuance of heavy rains for several days, and therefore my observation does not apply to the general character of the spot; but I can venture to assert, that when I was there, the distance between the rocks and the more impassable part of the morass, did not in some places much exceed three hundred feet. On the whole, though changes have certainly taken place at this spot, yet they are probably less than might have been expected from the nature of the situation, and the length of time that belongs to the history of the pass of Thermopylæ.

The Trachinian cliffs, which overhang the Pass,

may be from four to six hundred feet in height at this point, but they decline in elevation towards the south. The rock is entirely an ash-coloured limestone, and presents externally a rude and broken surface of rocky masses, with the wild olive, the prickly oak, and other shrubs growing in the intervals betwixt them. At some distance to the north-west of the hot springs, and near the entrance of the pass, there is a break in the cliffs, forming the steep and rugged valley of a stream which descends from the mountains. From the description of Herodotus, there seems reason to believe that this stream is the Asopus, and the opening in the mountains that called Anopæa. The ruins of an ancient Greek fortress are seen upon a summit of rock overhanging this place, probably one of those castles mentioned by Livy in his description of the Pass.

In this part of Thermopylæ, (for the whole length of the Pass may be considered to exceed five miles,) those events occurred which have given a lasting celebrity to the spot. At the time when Xerxes advanced with his army to the northern entrance of the strait, the Greeks were stationed within the wall, and between this barrier and Anthela; the Spartans alone, under Leonidas, placing themselves in front of the wall. It was here that the Persian horsemen, sent forward by Xerxes, saw these men occupied in combing their hair or in the gymnastic exercises of their country; and it was

in this singular position that the two armies remained for four days in expectation of the event. The combat which commenced on the fifth, and continued during this and the following day, took place on the same spot of ground; the Greeks advancing beyond their wall to meet the Persians in the most contracted part of the Pass. It is needless to speak minutely of the events which are so amply recorded by Herodotus and Plutarch, and so well known to all who feel interest in the record of former times. The Greeks perceiving themselves circumvented by the path over the mountains, which Ephialtes discovered to the Persian king, retired from the Pass, leaving only Leonidas with his Spartans and the Thespians, to sacrifice themselves for their country. The scene of combat was still the same, except that now, with the certainty of death, Leonidas carried his companions forward beyond the wall and the contracted part of the Pass, and, as Diodorus relates, even into the very midst of the Persian camp. * Here the Spartan king fell; his body was the object of glorious but destructive contention to the Greeks surviving him, who seeing at length the Persians advancing in their rear, retired through the entrenchments of the wall, and posted themselves on the eminence of Anthela already described. The combat now speedily came to a close, but not before every Spartan had perished on the spot. The inscribed memorials which Greece

* Diodor. Sic. lib. xi

erected here, to commemorate their devotion to their country, have now disappeared; but the natural features of Thermopylæ remain, and form a still more interesting record of the event.

This Pass was a second time illustrated by the bravery of the Greeks, and particularly of the Athenians, in defending themselves against the numerous army of Gauls, under Brennus; when these barbarians were seeking to penetrate into the interior of Greece. * A third time Thermopylæ was the scene of battle, between the Romans and the army of Antiochus; the latter stationed in the place of the Greeks within the Pass, and behind the Phocian wall; the Romans under their consul Acilius, attacking them from the position once occupied by Xerxes and his Persians. † It is worthy of notice that, in each of these instances, the event was brought about by the same means as in the Persian invasion. The discovery to Brennus of a path through the mountains, obliged the Greeks to retreat, to prevent their being surrounded; and Antiochus was compelled to fly with precipitation and loss, on seeing the heights above the Pass occupied by Roman soldiers, who under the command

* See the account of this invasion in Pausanias, lib. x. c. 49. et seq. — Previously to this time, the Athenians, sending a body of troops to Thermopylæ, had prevented Philip of Macedon from penetrating through the Pass, when about to take part against the Phocians in the sacred war.

† Liv. xxxvi. 15. et. seq. — Considering the nature of the ground, it is singular that elephants should have been employed in this contest between the Romans and Antiochus.

of M. Porcius Cato, had been secretly sent round to seize these positions. In the reign of Justinian, the army of the Huns advanced to Thermopylæ, and discovered the path over the mountains. When the Sultan Bajazet entered Greece, towards the close of the 14th century, there appears to have been little need of these artifices to force a way through Thermopylæ; a Greek bishop, it is said, conducting the Mohammedan conquerors through the Pass, to enslave the liberties of his country.

The mountain-route, by which the defences of Thermopylæ have thus been rendered vain, cannot, I believe, be considered as a single path; but probably includes two or three tracks over the rocks above the Pass, which are described by ancient writers. There perhaps may be some doubt as to the actual one by which Ephialtes conducted the Persians; but the general outline of the route, and its importance to the issue of the contest, are obvious on the first inspection of the spot. *

I examined with some attention the hot springs of Thermopylæ. The water breaks out in dif-

* Pausanias, it may be observed, describes two mountain-paths, one passing above Trachis, and extremely rugged; the other through the district of the Œnianes, and more practicable. It was by the latter, he says, that the Persians circumvented the Greeks. From this account, which perhaps, however, is not consonant with that of Herodotus, it seems possible that the opening in the mountains, along the edge of which we ascended to Leuterochori, may have been the valley of the Asopus, and the route which Ephialtes betrayed to the Persians. Procopius (De Edif. lib. iv. c. 2.) speaks of several mountain-paths, by which the Pass might be circumvented.

ferent places at the foot of the rocks; but two spots are more remarkable than the rest, from its appearing in greater quantity, and forming small basins at its source. These basins are incrusted round with depositions from the springs; and similar depositions cover a large extent of surface, over which the water flows towards the marshes. I brought away some specimens of this incrustation, which is composed of carbonate of lime, and does not appear to contain any sensible quantity of any other earthy substance. In approaching the springs, the smell of sulphuretted hydrogen is very perceptible. The water is extremely clear, but hard and distinctly saline to the taste. It comes from various openings in the rock, or in the basins which the springs have formed: at the mouth of these fissures I found the temperature to be pretty uniformly 103° or 104° Fahrenheit. From two of the springs the water is collected together, forming a considerable stream; which after turning the wheel of a mill erected within the Pass, is dispersed over the marshes below.

Half a mile to the south of the mill, the Pass is again contracted by some rugged eminences to the left of the road, intervening between the cliffs and the sea; which eminences, as well as the cliffs, are covered with shrubs and brushwood, giving a wild, yet picturesque character to the scenery. On the highest of them stands a Derveni, or guard-house, in which there are a few Albanian soldiers, stationed here for the security of the Pass. Beyond this spot,

there is a tumulus, which has been supposed by some to be the spot where the Greeks who fell at Thermopylæ were buried by their * countrymen. The Pass still continues towards the south, in some places extremely contracted by the approach of the sea; till beyond the village of Mola, and the site of the ancient Alpenus, it expands out into the beautiful and fertile shores, which line the Eubœan strait.

We were singularly unfortunate in the day, when we surveyed Thermopylæ. From the time we crossed the Hellada, the rain fell in torrents upon us; and the horizon was so thick, that we were unable to see the opposite coast of Eubœa, or even the summits of the cliffs immediately above us. This state of the weather prevented an examination of the Pass, as minute as I could have desired to make. In any other spot, it might have repressed all feeling connected with the memory of former events; but it was impossible that this should happen in the Pass of Thermopylæ.

Quitting this remarkable place, we pursued our route towards Leuterochori, where we designed to pass the night; a village situate among the heights of Œta, and in the line of the only practicable route across this mountain-chain. From Thermopylæ we retraced for some way our former steps; but instead of repassing the Hellada, skirted for a mile

* The physician Sakallarius of Ioannina gave me a copy of a short but spirited Romaic Ode, on the combat at Thermopylæ, which he had composed after visiting this spot.

or two along the foot of the high cliffs, which are extended westward from the Pass, to form the southern boundary of the valley; and then began our ascent of the chain of Œta, by a route equally singular and interesting, but difficult and not free from danger. At first we followed a path winding upwards along a deep and thickly wooded recess in the mountains, through which a stream flowed towards the sea. * Turning then to the right, and rapidly ascending for nearly an hour, we came to the very edge of the cliffs which overhang the valley; lofty, precipitous, and rugged, yet clothed with a rich profusion of wood. The view from this point of the plains of the Sperchius, of the bay, and of the chain of Othrys, was very magnificent; and interesting to us, as the last we obtained of the region of Thessaly. We now turned southwards, into the interior of the mountains: our ascent was rapidly continued, and before long we saw only the clouds of a stormy evening rolling around and beneath us, disclosing at intervals the outline of loftier summits, entirely covered with snow. There was something of dreary wildness in our approach to Leuterochori, which may not easily be forgotten. Night was coming on, and we were enveloped by thick fogs, which now concealed all the great mountain outlines that surrounded us. From the elevated situation of the place, the cold was very severe; and rendered more so by the snow and sleet falling

* This stream if it be not indeed the Asopus, is either the Dyras, or the Melas, mentioned by Herodotus.

upon us. We found the village to consist of 80 or 100 miserable cottages, scattered here and there over the rugged surface of one of the heights, and constructed rudely of mud and stones. As we entered the place, we saw forty or fifty people assembled by the light of a few tapers in a wretched hovel, which we found to be the church; engaged in some of the religious ceremonies of the Christmas season. The habitation which our Tartar selected as one of the best in the village, was scarcely accessible on horseback, from the precipitous ledges of rock, under which, as a shelter, it had been erected. It consisted of a single apartment, with naked mud-walls, and a flooring of the naked earth; one end of the room occupied by horses, the other inhabited by two large families; with no other furniture than a few wooden and earthen vessels, and the straw-mats and woollen coats, which they used for their nightly covering.

A large fire was lighted in the middle of the apartment; and all these poor people crowded around it, with an eagerness which seemed to show that even this was a luxury they did not always obtain. There was an aspect of meagre wretchedness and of absolute privation about them, which I have seldom seen equalled. Our arrival, and the ferocious manner in which our Turkish attendants broke into the house, produced at first much alarm. The eldest daughter of one of the families, who in another sphere of life might have been a beauty, was hurried away into a neighbouring hovel. In the faces and

manner of those who remained, there was silently expressed an habitual expectation of ill-usage, which it was painful to the mind to contemplate. Some little presents we made to the children, reconciled these poor people to us; and they shewed themselves grateful, when we saved the master of the family from the savage treatment of one of the *sourudzes*. When the Turks left the house at night, to sleep in an adjoining habitation, they became more easy; and to alarm succeeded a sort of familiar curiosity, much akin to that which belongs to savage life. The young woman who had been concealed at our first entrance, now appeared again, and formed one in the groupe of gazers who surrounded us. We all slept together round the embers of the fire; an assembly of fifteen people, not to speak of six or eight horses, which had their quarters at the other end of the apartment. Our bedding excited much surprise and admiration; and we could not persuade any of the family to retire to rest on their mats and capotes, before they had witnessed every part of the preparation for our own repose.

The lofty mountain-level on which Leuterochori stands, was probably that formerly inhabited by the Œnianes*; and it was on some one of the heights in this vicinity, that Hercules is said to have kindled the fire which became his own funeral pile. The consul Acilius, after having defeated Antiochus at

* Strab. lib. ix. 428. Pausan. lib. x.

Thermopylæ, marched his army across the chain of Œta, to attack the Ætolians; and in his way, halted at this spot, to offer sacrifice to the manes of the Grecian hero. * The village of Leuterochori is the private property of Ali Pasha. His power in this district seems to have been originally acquired in his office of Derveni Pasha, and now extends over all the country between the gulfs of Zeitun and Corinth.

Our route from Leuterochori towards Salona and the gulf of Corinth, was highly interesting in the nature of the scenery through which it conducted us. From this village we still continued our ascent of the chain of Œta, and attained a very great height above the level of the sea. The mountains composing this part of the chain are of the finest form; not long-continued ridges, but insulated masses and summits, with profound intervening hollows, and lofty mural precipices; the higher elevations now covered with snow, but shewing to the eye extensive pine forests spread over their acclivities; and on a lower level, and in the depth of the vallies, thick woods of oak, plane, and other forest-trees. A very striking feature occurs a few miles to the south of Leuterochori, in a profound ravine, not on the ordinary scale in which we see this kind of scenery in England and Scotland, but formed by the opposition of cliffs, which cannot be less than a thousand feet in height; and having a

* Liv. lib. xxxvi. cap. 30.

massive boldness of form and combination, which gives the highest effect of grandeur to the eye. Beyond this again is another feature of singular magnificence. From the narrow road across one of the ridges of the chain, you look down upon a vast basin or hollow among the mountains; from the midst of which rises precipitously a majestic mass of rock, connected by a ridge with the hills behind; but appearing in itself as an insulated object, and deriving somewhat of animated existence from the boldness with which it projects itself forward to meet the eye. The height of this cliff is very great, and it presents a single surface of rock from the summit to the base.

Every part of the chain of Œta which I saw, belongs to the great calcareous formation of Greece. The stratification of the limestone, as exhibited in its ravines and precipices, is in many places very regular and distinct. In the channels of the streams, descending from the higher points of the chains, I observed no primitive fragments; and I conclude, therefore, that the whole of this mountain groupe is similarly composed.

Our descent on the southern side of the mountains was as rapid as the ascent on the opposite side, and equally remarkable in the magnificence of the landscape that was spread before the eye. Below us lay the broad and fertile valley of the ancient Cephissus, through which this river flows in a tranquil course towards the plains of Bœotia. Beyond this valley, and forming its southern boundary, a lofty range of

mountains extended in a line from north-west to south-east, rising at the latter extremity into one great mountain; the summit of which attained a height far above any others in the landscape. The situation, the magnitude, and form of this, pointed it out at once as the Παρνασσος διχορυμβος, the ancient and venerable Parnassus, which we now gazed upon for the first time. A tier of clouds hung round the lower parts of the mountain, which, above this line, was seen in the form of pinnacles and vast precipices, appearing among the light clouds which floated over its surface. There was the same aërial effect in this view of it, which had formerly so strongly impressed me, in looking upwards to Olympus from the village of Leuterochori.

The vale of the Cephissus is here three or four miles in width; a great part of its extent finely wooded with oaks and plane-trees. Higher up the valley, towards the sources of the river, was the region of the Tetrapolis of Doris; which, Strabo says, was regarded by some as the country whence the Dorian tribes originally sprung. There are, I believe, the vestiges of several ancient towns in this district; some of which may doubtless be regarded as appertaining to the four cities of Doris, but I am unacquainted with their exact situation. *

We crossed the valley to the Khan of Gravia on its southern side, where we made a meal among ten or twelve shepherds, dressed in coarse white

* The four cities of Doris were Erineos, Boeum, Pindos or Acyphas, and Cytinium.

woollen garments, and carrying each the primitive shepherd's crook. This Khan is at the entrance of a steep and narrow defile, traversing the lofty chain of mountains which runs towards the south-east, to terminate in Parnassus. This is in fact the range connecting Parnassus more immediately with the chains of Pindus, Œta, and the mountains of Locris and Ætolia; all which elevated ridges may be regarded as belonging to one great groupe, of which Pindus may perhaps be considered the central chain in direction and extent. The entrance to the pass at Gravia is formed by a very high conical mountain; the cliffs at the lower part of which are opposed to each other, leaving a ravine so narrow as in some places barely to admit the passage of a stream, and of a road rapidly ascending below the rocks; if that indeed may be called a road, which is simply a rocky staircase, rude and difficult of ascent. The cliffs are high, and for the most part perpendicular. The limestone of which they are composed, is hollowed out into numerous caves; some of which, where accessible, have been converted into the haitations of mountain-shepherds.

Ascending the pass, we found it gradually enlarging; the cliffs thrown further back from us, but still abrupt and precipitous, and richly clothed with pines and cedars, forming a fine description of scenery, and on a magnificent scale. Two hours of most laborious climbing were required to conduct us to the summit of the chain; which, like many of those traversing Greece, is so mere a ridge

at this spot, that not a yard of plane surface intervenes between the ascent and descent. At some distance below the summit, on the southern side, we came to a point, where an opening in the mountains disclosed to us a noble view of the distant gulf of Corinth, and the high mountains of the Peloponnesus beyond; now, like those in the north of Greece, covered to a great depth with snow.

Descending yet further, the scenery around us lost nothing of its grandeur. The road carried us along the edge of precipices and profound ravines; and the landscape was unceasingly varied by openings, either into the recesses of the mountains, or in a southerly direction towards the gulf. One point was more than commonly singular in its character; where, in a junction of the vallies, or rather ravines, of three mountain-streams, the promontories, forming the angles at this junction, exhibit precipitous fronts of naked rock, certainly not much less than a thousand feet in height, and rendered more extraordinary by the beautiful stratification of the limestone composing them. The strata are very uniform in their thickness, which does not in general exceed a few yards; and are distinctly exposed from the base to the summit of these great promontories, so as to afford the means of a rude calculation as to their total height. The stratification is not much inclined, but is very singularly broken at right angles to its direction, so as to give in various points of the profile view of the cliffs, a fine example of what might be called a *trap* formation, in the ori-

ginal meaning of the word. I have in general, in Greece, observed this broken stratification of limestone to be most remarkable, where the rock is much impregnated with iron. At the spot I am now describing, the surface of the rock exhibits a strong red tinge, wherever it is broken, or worn into fissures and caverns.

The descent here becomes so precipitous, that for a mile the road is actually a series of stairs; the steps low, and well constructed with large paving-stones, and a wall on the right hand to protect the traveller from the precipices, along the edge of which he is passing. This place is called the *Kakaskala*, a name very appropriate to the character of the place. The adroitness which the horses of Greece have acquired, in traversing roads of this kind, would have more astonished me, had I not formerly observed in Iceland a still greater degree of adaptation in this animal to the circumstances of the country.

Arrived at length in the level country, at the foot of this chain of mountains, we continued an easy route to Salona, the ancient Amphissa.* The situation of this city is very fine, in a semicircular valley or basin beneath the mountains; which valley stretches down with a gradual descent, and luxuriant surface, to the shores of the gulf of Salona, a branch of the Corinthian Gulf. An in-

* Meletius, as well as some earlier writers, have doubted this fact, and asserted that a place called Lampeni, or Lampina, represents the ancient Amphissa.

sulated hill rises out of the valley; its broken summit covered with the walls and towers of an ancient castle: the buildings of the city are spread over the ascent, or collected around its base; and are much intermixed with the foliage of cypresses and orange-trees, which grow in gardens or around the mosques.

Salona contains more than 800 houses, of which it is estimated that 500 are inhabited by Greeks. There are seven Greek churches in the city, and an equal number of mosques. The vallies in the neighbourhood produce grain, oil, cotton and wine; the two former articles in sufficient quantity for a large exportation from the gulf; whence also is carried a part of the produce of wool, from the flocks on the adjoining mountains. * Salona, with nearly the whole of the northern coast of the gulf of Corinth, is subject to the power of Ali Pasha. The commandant of the city at this time was Seid Achmet; a person who, a few years before, had been sent by Ali on a mission to England, which he appears to have fulfilled with some ability. Before my return into Albania, he had been withdrawn from the command at Salona, and I saw him frequently at Ioannina. He had acquired and re-

* The export of wheat from the gulf of Salona, in 1805, was estimated at about 20,000 kilos, each kilo of 55lbs.: that of barley at 80,000 kilos. Of oil, 5000 barrels were exported the same year: of wool about 140,000 okes: of cotton 72,000 okes, besides a small quantity of valonia, honey, wax, &c. The total value of annual exports, in the estimate I saw, was nearly 800,000 piastres.

tained some slight knowledge of English; and his highest gratification was that of talking about his visit to England; his interview with the King, for whom he entertained a great veneration; and his intercourse with various people, whose names he preserved with a correctness which surprised me. *

The lofty pine-covered mountains, seen to the west of Salona, were anciently included in the territory of the western Locris; and the steep and rugged Corax, mentioned by Livy and Appian in their narratives of the Roman war with Antiochus and the Ætolians, is probably one of this † groupe. The mountains to the east of the valley are still further consecrated to history, as those of the region of Phocis. Salona, in fact, may be considered the entrance on this side into the more classical districts of ancient Greece; and the traveller here begins to tread with a more sure foot upon the monuments and vestiges of this extraordinary people.

* Since this was written, Seid Achmet has again visited England, on a mission from Ali Pasha to our government.

† Liv. lib. xxxvi. c. 30. Appian (De Bell. Syr.) calls it ὑψηλότατον, καὶ δυσοδευτον, καὶ αποκεκημενον.

CHAP. XIX.

JOURNEY THROUGH THE ANCIENT PHOCIS, BŒOTIA, AND ATTICA TO ATHENS. — DELPHI. — TRIODON. — CHERONÆA. — LIVADIA. — HELICON. — MARSH OF COPAIS. — THEBES. — RUINS OF THESPIA. — FIELDS OF LEUCTRA, AND PLATEA. — CHAIN OF CITHÆRON. — VIA SACRA. — ATHENS.

The limitation as to the plan of this work, mentioned in the Preface, will lead me to pass hastily over the more classical parts of Greece, to which I have now conducted the reader. I need not, I believe, add more to the reasons I have there given. It would be an injustice to the subject to describe, what I saw only in a very cursory manner, and during the depth of a winter of unexampled severity; and such description is further rendered superfluous by the many accounts we already have of this country, more perfect and valuable than I should be able to give. I continue then my narrative here, merely to connect, by a brief outline, the second journey I made in Albania, with my first visit to this and other districts in the north of Greece.

Urged forwards by the cold and stormy weather

which had now come upon us, we travelled from Salona to Athens in eight days; a period of time, which under other circumstances would have been much too short, for a country abounding in natural beauty, and in the vestiges of ancient history and art. The first object of interest in our route, was the venerable Delphi; which though its glories of inspiration are now gone, and its temples levelled with the ground, still preserves something of sanctity in the solitary magnificence of its situation, and in the silence now resting upon places, where all Greece once assembled to the solemnities of the Amphictyonic council, and to the contests of the Pythian games. The modern village of Kastri stands upon the sacred ground, wretched in all but the scenery that surrounds it. Where the splendour of art has disappeared, that of nature has remained; and standing on the site of Delphi, one cannot but admire that taste and spirit of ancient Greece, which chose for its place of national assembly a spot possessing so many great and imposing features. The lofty and abrupt cliffs rising behind to form the two Delphic summits; the chasm and Castalian fountain between these cliffs; the profound valley of the Plistus beneath, bounded on the opposite side by the mountain-ridge of Cirphis; — all these objects are still in the landscape before the eye. About the Pythian cave more doubt may be entertained, Various caverns in the limestone rock may be seen at the base of the Castalian cliffs; but none which with any probability will admit of

this name.* The vestiges of art, with the exception of the stadium, the tombs, and niches cut in the rock, are equally obscure; and even the site of the temple of Apollo is by no means distinctly ascertained, though some have fancied its peribolos in an ancient wall of massive stones, which now supports the Greek church of St. Elias; while the site of the temple of Minerva has been assigned to another similar wall at the church of Pan-Agia, on the opposite side the Castalian stream. The traces of antiquity, however, are every-where visible at Kastri, in the fragments of marble and Greek inscriptions scattered through the village; and notwithstanding all that Nero obtained from Delphi, it may be presumed that future excavation here will still produce much that is valuable of ancient sculpture. We saw lying on the ground, within the

* I am disposed to think that this celebrated cave has not usually been sought for in the right place. Justin, describing the situation and features of Delphi, says, "In hoc rupis anfractu, media fermè montis altitudine, planities exigua est, atque in eâ profundum terræ foramen quod in oracula patet; ex quo frigidus spiritus, vi quadam, velut vento, in sublime expulsus, mentes vatum in vecordiam vertit," &c. lib. xxiv. c. 6. This description would lead to the inference, that the Pythian cave was in the chasm at some height above the Castalian fountain; and though this situation would expose it to being filled up by fragments, or to other changes, yet I should not be surprised, considering the permanence which often belongs to such local phenomena, were an accurate search still to discover the issue of carbonic acid-gas from some place among the rocks. There is much reason to suppose that it was this gas which produced some, at least, of the extraordinary effects connected with the functions of the Pythian oracle.

village, the fine remains of a colossal statue, which but two days before had been discovered in digging the foundations of a cottage.

We ascended to the summit of one of the Castalian cliffs which overhang the site of Delphi; *a woodless steep*, though Gray has otherwise pictured it, and at this time covered with snow. The highest points of these cliffs (which may be considered to form on this side the base of Parnassus) are from six to eight hundred feet above the level of Delphi, — nearly two thousand perhaps above that of the sea. We drank of the Castalian fount; but inspiration would have been impossible, with the necessity of guarding against the pollution of dirty clothes, which some ragged females of the village were washing in the sacred stream. Two Greek priests attended us in our survey of Delphi, — men whom in wretchedness I could only compare with the priests of Iceland, but who wanted the knowledge which is often so remarkable in the latter.

From Delphi we proceeded, amidst heavy storms of snow, up the valley of the Plistus to Arakova; a town standing on the heights of one of the mountain-chains which are sent down from Parnassus. We passed the night here with the thermometer below the freezing point, and every thing around us deeply covered with snow. The next day's journey was to Davlia, the ancient Daulis, — our route a winding one among the hills at the base of Parnassus, which are still entirely calcareous; covered in some places by a shale strongly impregnated

with iron, and in others by a coarse calcareous conglomerate. Four miles from Arakova, we came to the celebrated spot of the τρεῖς κελευθοι, taken by Sophocles as the scene of the murder of Laius by Œpidus. This place could not have been better characterized to the eye of the poet, than it is to that of the modern traveller. The three roads coming from Delphi, Daulis, and Livadia, meet in a craggy and unequal spot; and that towards Delphi in particular is much contracted by a cliff which overhangs it. A large stone, rudely worked into form, has been set up at a short distance from the point of junction, and here a Greek, who was in our train, told us that one of their kings had been buried. These imperfect scraps of historical knowledge are common among the Greeks, and the stone in question may have been placed here in some later time, to commemorate the supposed event.

Davlia is in a picturesque country, at the eastern foot of Parnassus. Though having now more than half circled round this great mountain, we had only once seen its summits; and it was but a fruitless labour we undertook in ascending from Davlia to the monastery of Panagia, one of the highest habitations on its eastern acclivity. We found the snows so deep, and the fogs so thick, that it was impossible to advance further than this point, which is said to be five hours' journey from the summit. The Corycian cave therefore, and the wonders of the upper part of Parnassus, (the

Liakoura, as it is now called, from the ancient Lycorea,) were entirely concealed from our observation. *

At Davlia there are ruins attesting the site of the ancient city. † Here the plains of Bœotia open out before the traveller, who looking down the broad and fertile valley of the Cephissus, sees in the distance the marshy level of the Lake Copais, and still more remotely the mountains bounding the strait of the Euripus. We pursued our journey eastwards along this valley to Cheronæa; a spot signalized by the great victory which gave Greece into the hands of Philip; as the scene of the first military exploits of Alexander; and as the birth-place of Plutarch. The ruins of this city are extensive. Massive walls of the ancient Greek structure cover and circle round the summit of a rocky hill, on the southern side of the plain; a small amphitheatre is seen, the steps of which are cut in the rock near the base of this hill; and on the level below there are numerous vestiges of

* I am not aware that the height of Parnassus has been ascertained, but it is unquestionably one of the loftiest mountains in Greece. Lucian vaguely speaks of it as being higher than Caucasus, and Olympus higher than both. The rock of Parnassus appears to be chiefly marble.

† I do not know that there are any vestiges of the temple of Minerva, mentioned by Pausanias. The description of Livy (lib. xxxii. c. 18.) would render it somewhat doubtful whether Daulis was exactly on the same site as the modern town, perhaps rather on one of the abrupt and lofty eminences a little to the south.

buildings and fragments of marble, with several Greek inscriptions. * Nothing is here to be seen of the celebrated Theban lion of Cheronæa; but it is possibly buried under ground, and may yet reward the search of some future traveller.

The plains adjoining Cheronæa have been the scene of other battles. It was here that Onomarchus, the commander of the Phocians in the sacred war, was defeated by the Thebans: in this vicinity also, Sylla gained a victory over Archelaus, commanding the troops of his master Mithridates.

Only a few miles intervene between this place and Livadia or Lebadea; a city once celebrated as the site of the oracle of Trophonius, and still considered as one of the principal towns in modern Greece. Its situation is on the acclivity of a steep hill, surmounted by the remains of a fortress which is said to have been founded by the Catalans. This situation gives an air of magnificence to the houses of the town, which are reckoned at nearly 2000; many of them very large, and inhabited by wealthy and respectable Greeks. The minarets of five mosques rise from among the other buildings, but the Turkish part of the population is notwithstanding very small.

The commerce of Livadia and the adjoining

* There is an inscription on the rock at Cheronæa, which I was unable to decipher. One upon a stone, forming part of the basin of a fountain near the road, relates to a certain Lytobulus, ΦΙΛΟΣΟΦΟΝ ΠΛΑΤΩΝΙΚΟΝ; but the inscription is only in small part legible.

country is extensive, and carried on chiefly by the gulf of Corinth. * The Greek merchants of this city derive great profits from the export of the produce of their lands, and are much reputed both for wealth and activity. We visited the Archon Logotheti, the principal of them; a man who lives with all the pomp of a grandee, surrounded by dependants, and in a house larger and more luxuriously furnished than any other I have seen in Greece. He married the sister of Colovo of Ioannina, but was at this time a widower; with a daughter, famed in this part of Greece for her extraordinary beauty, and certainly meriting in the perfect harmony of her features every eulogium which fame could bestow. Her dress was superb, particularly in the arrangement and decorations of the hair, and in the ornaments round the waist. This young woman is since, I believe, married to the son of another wealthy Greek in Livadia. The Archon Logotheti himself is a curious specimen of aristocratic pride, struggling with the servility which arises from the political condition of his country. The power of Ali Pasha extends to Livadia in his capacity of Derveni Pasha, but it is

* The principal exports from this district, which has the general name of Livadia, are wheat, barley, oats, maize, pease, cotton, wool, cheese, honey, &c. Of these wheat is the principal article, produced largely in the fertile plains of Bœotia. Its export in 1805 was estimated at about 250,000 kilos, and the total value of the exports for this district the same year was reckoned at nearly 130,000*l.*

here of a more modified kind than in Albania or Thessaly.

The most interesting feature at Livadia is a vast chasm in the limestone hills adjoining the town, in the lower part of which ravine were situated the Cave of Trophonius, the Hercynian fountain, and the ever-celebrated fountains of Memory and Lethe. These natural features still remain almost untouched by the hands of time. The Hercynian fountain may be seen gushing from underneath the cliffs in a body of water, sufficient at once to form a large stream. The other two fountains equally continue to pour out their waters from hidden sources within the rocks; and their situation may be presumed to indicate that of the Cave of the oracle in the adjoining cliffs, in which may still be seen the niches, which were once occupied by images or votive offerings. It is not, however, ascertained with certainty which was the real cave, since there are several natural or artificial caverns in the rock, and all these nearly horizontal in direction; whereas the description of Pausanias requires also some perpendicular opening, into which those consulting the oracle were obliged to descend. * Nothing now remains of the sacred

* Pausanias (see his Bœotica) describes something like a balustrade surrounding the opening, and a ladder by which the descent was made into it. It is easy to conceive that in a limestone rock like that of Livadia, an earthquake, or some more gradual change, may have filled up such a cavity; and it may

wood of the oracle, which was probably in the opening of the valley below the ravine. If it were so, the approach to the cave must have been very imposing. Advancing from the plain, the stranger would pass through the grove, rendered more obscure by its situation; then would enter suddenly the ravine; and at the foot of its perpendicular cliffs, where the waters of the fountains gush from the rock, would find himself at the cave of Trophonius. Of the mysterious and alarming rites by which this oracle was distinguished, it is unnecessary here to speak.

While at Livadia, and sitting in the house of the Archon Logotheti, we felt three shocks of an earthquake, rapidly succeeding each other. They were followed soon afterwards by rain. The great limestone formation of Greece and the isles, seems particularly liable to this phenomenon of earthquakes. The daughter of Logotheti, and other females, who were in the same room with us, manifested little alarm at the occurrence; though the first shock was strong enough to throw open the doors, and shake violently all the furniture of the room.

We were fortunate in an accidental meeting at Livadia with M. Gropius, who at this time was on his way from Zante to Athens. We continued

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be remarked that there is one cavern at the foot of the cliffs, near the fountain of Lethe, actually so far filled up with fragments as to preclude any entrance.

our journey together as far as Thebes, the distance of which from Livadia is about twenty-five miles; a route more than usually interesting, as well in its actual scenery, as in the perpetual recollections it affords of ancient times. The traveller, with Pausanias as his guide, (than whom it would be difficult to find one more accurate,) will every where recognize the site of the old Bœotian cities, and will see numerous vestiges of them as he passes over the great plains of this region; such as the remains of ancient walls, the fragments of marbles, inscriptions, tumuli, &c. Some ruins near a village, on the north side of the plain of the Cephissus, shew the site of Orchomenos; a city giving a title which we translate as King; somewhat unfitly for the correct understanding of history, which in many similar instances is falsely interpreted under the delusion of names. Mountainous countries, from obvious causes, are generally portioned out into smaller communities than plains; and this is particularly true in the ancient condition of Greece; where almost every valley and mountain acclivity had its respective towns or tribes, distinguished more or less from others by a difference of origin, government, or customs. These names come down to us individually from old times; and modern history does not always correctly estimate their actual magnitude, or that of the events connected with them. It requires the shelter of remote antiquity to sanction with the epithets of wars, kings, and conquests, the

petty feuds of chieftains living in adjacent vallies of the same district.

Our route conducted us close to the ruins of Coronea and Onchestus, two others of the Bœotian cities. * Every where, indeed, the vestiges of ancient population are scattered over this country, and scarcely a peasant at his plough but can offer a little collection of coins, which he has gathered from the soil he tills. Our journey was rendered agreeable by fine and frosty weather, succeeding to the storms of the preceding days; and except that a fog, according to old Bœotian usage, hung over the lower part of the plains and the marsh Copais, we had on every side of us a clear and splendid landscape. The great outline of Parnassus was now seen distinctly in its whole extent, and we had a new and interesting feature in the chain of Mount Helicon, which lying on our right hand, formed the southern boundary of the plain for the greater part of the way between Livadia and Thebes. There is something remarkably picturesque and graceful in the form of this ridge, what might fit it to the imagination as an abode of the Muses, when they quitted the loftier heights of Pindus and Parnassus. Helicon has itself indeed the grandeur of height and steepness; but it is a grandeur softened to the eye by the figure of

* In this part of the plain is a large tumulus, partly perhaps natural, but artificially levelled on the summit. May this have been the site of the temple of Apollo known to have existed in this vicinity?

the cliffs and intervening hollows, by the woods which still cover them as in ancient times *, and by the beautiful slopes which connect the cliffs with the plains at their feet. This character was not lost even at the present time, when the approach of winter had already covered with snow more than half the height of the mountain.

The Lake Copais, as it is called, is now what it was formerly, an extensive morass, partly cultivated, partly covered with shallow pools of water. There can be little doubt that it was once a lake, like the larger plain of Thessaly; but, unlike the latter, it appears to have been in great measure laid dry by the industry of man in providing channels for the egress of the waters. Many villages may be seen upon its banks, or on knolls of ground which rise from amidst the marsh. The plains between Livadia, Orchomenos, and Copais, are esteemed the finest in Bœotia, and produce a large quantity of grain, rice, and cotton. The Cephissus winds through them; a tranquil stream, the borders of which still produce the reeds, commended by Plutarch for the excellence of the lutes they afford.† Altogether the landscape here corresponds well with the ancient description of Bœotia, and the epithets given to it by poets and other writers.

* "Aut in umbrosis Heliconis oris." Hor. lib. i. od. 12.

† In Vit. Syllæ.—Plutarch also speaks of the richness of the plain about Orchomenos.

Sixteen or eighteen miles from Livadia, we traversed a ridge of hills, which separates the plains of the Cephissus and Copais from that of Thebes. This rocky pass is reputed as the one where the Sphinx proposed his perilous questions to the traveller; and there is much reason to believe that it was the spot meant by Sophocles as the scene of this story. The view from the summit level of this pass is extensive and magnificent, and very interesting in a geographical point of view.

We proceeded along the great plain of Thebes to the city, which is seen at the distance of many miles, covering the sides and summit of a low hill; a spot venerable from an historical antiquity of more than 3000 years. The name may be considered as still preserved, — the modern pronunciation of *Theva* being merely a change arising out of the Romaic sound of the letter B. The effect upon the imagination of the traveller from the many great names and events which history connects with this spot, and from the living reality of the scenery around it, is scarcely even removed by the wretched aspect of the modern town; an assemblage of five or six hundred ill-built houses, irregularly disposed, two Turkish mosques, and several small Greek churches; the latter exhibiting a strange motley appearance in the rude mixture of modern building, with fragments of columns and other sculptured marbles, the relics of the ancient Thebes. The house of the Vaivode is the only considerable building in the place. The Bazar

forms a small square in the centre of the town, but its shops are scantily provided, and there is that general air of indolence and neglect which belongs to most places where the Turkish population is predominant. Yet Thebes is said at this time to be somewhat increasing in size; and several groupes of mud-built cottages now appear upon what was once the site of the lower city, described by Pausanias to have been in ruins at the time when he wrote.

The remains of antiquity in Thebes are externally less conspicuous than in most of the other great cities of Greece; and even with the minute details of Pausanias, it is difficult to make out the position of the seven gates, or of the numerous temples which adorned the city. Three or four places, indeed, may be pointed out within or around the modern town, where, from the form of the ground, and the numerous fragments of columns and marbles, it may be presumed that certain of these temples stood; and I doubt not that when circumstances shall allow of excavation here, much will be found to repay research, even though the Mercury of Phidias or the Minerva of Scopas should never again be restored to light. One of these spots is the small Greek church of St. Luke, on an eminence close to the town; now itself in ruins, but containing various sculptured marbles, which have thus doubly gone to decay. Another church, to the south of the town, also in a ruinous state, contains similar vestiges of an ancient temple.

Many Greek inscriptions are visible, as well in these places, as in other parts of the city; but more interesting, because better defined objects, are the fountains of Dirce and Ismenus; the former at the entrance from Livadia, and probably near the site of the Crenean Gate; the latter about half a mile to the south-east of the city. The fountain of Ismenus forms a small pool, through which a body of water gushes from the rock, forming at once a considerable stream. This phenomenon, as I have before observed, is very common in every part of the limestone formation of Greece.*

At Thebes the authority of Ali Pasha began to fail us; and with all the activity of our Tartar, we were exposed to difficulties here, which had not equally occurred in other parts of our journey. The town itself is subject to the government of the Pasha of the Negropont; and the absence of the Vaivode, who was attending his superior, threw us into the house and hands of a knavish Greek, who is familiarly known here by the name of Nicholachi, and whose repute is of a very low kind. We remained at Thebes two days, and in making our excursions around the town, were favoured by clear frosty weather, with the thermometer at eight *a. m.* at 29° and 30°.

* The rock at Thebes appears to be in great part a calcareous conglomerate; and judging from the fragments, it seems that the walls of the ancient edifices of the city were chiefly composed of this rock, and even many of the columns of the temples. The effect must have been greatly inferior to that of the Pentelic marble.

Cold, as well as a dense foggy atmosphere, was one of the characteristics of Bœotia in old times; a conjoint effect of the marshes and lofty chains of mountains which occupy this region. The moral effect, attributed to these circumstances, is perhaps less distinctly marked than formerly, in the comparison of the Bœotians with the other Greeks; all being now subject to a common bondage. Yet in the passage from Bœotia to Attica the change is very striking; and on the dry soil, and under the temperate climate of the latter district, the traveller finds a people more gay, more animated, and vivacious, than their countrymen either of the Bœotian or Thessalian plains.

The stranger in Bœotia, from whatsoever side he come, can scarcely fail to be struck with the beauty of the females in this country, and with a general style of feature which approaches more to the *beau ideal*, than any other I recollect to have seen. Such observations, it is true, are often founded upon partial instances; but here I believe it is not so; and the traveller, who for some time will watch over the Hercynian fountain at Livadia, or that of Dirce at Thebes, will find this statement confirmed even by the appearance of the common washer-women who frequent these fountains. The dress of the female peasants in the villages is on the whole pleasing, though it may require some effort to be satisfied with the ornaments of paras and other coins attached to the head; sometimes actually forming a cap for it; in other instances,

hanging down in long strings among the hair. This fashion is practised even with girls who can scarcely walk; and I have often been asked by mothers, who were ashamed to beg on their own account, for some coins to append to the heads of their little daughters. The amount of this finery increases as they grow up; and a young female peasant, when old enough to be married, may fairly be said to carry her dowry in her dress.

While at Thebes we had the opportunity of witnessing a procession of females, attending a Greek bride to her house after marriage. There were various circumstances in this spectacle strongly recalling to mind the ceremonies of ancient Greece on similar occasions. These popular and familiar usages are often retained, where every other vestige of kindred between remote generations has passed away.

We left Thebes on the last day of the year, deviating from the direct road to Athens, to visit the ruins of Thespia, and the celebrated fields of Leuctra and Platea. Our companion for a part of the way to Thespia, was a drunken Dervish going to Livadia; whose vehement gestures, loud speech, and idiotical laughter, surprised, and sometimes almost startled us. Following the course of a long and retired valley, with the eastern extremity of Helicon in front of us, we came to the ruins of Thespia, scattered over an extensive surface of ploughed land, but presenting no individual remains of any importance. Some of the fragments of

marbles are irregularly placed in two small ruined buildings, which have probably been Greek churches, constructed from the remains of more ancient edifices. In one of these I found a marble, having upon it an inscription, in which the words "Praxiteles Athenaios" immediately struck me, and which is further singular from the division of the surface into small squares, each square on the alternate lines containing a single letter. The inscription, as far as it was legible, stood thus:—

The name of Praxiteles, in connection with Thespia, is interesting; since it is well known that the celebrated Cupid of this artist, which he himself considered the finest of his works, was presented to the Thespians. We learn from Cicero, that it was common to go to Thespia for the sole purpose of seeing this statue. *

The situation of Thespia is rendered agreeable by the vicinity of Helicon, which here, as from

* The reader will recollect the anecdote of the mistress of Praxiteles, who, to ascertain the comparative estimation in which he held his own works, created a false alarm of fire, by which Praxiteles was brought forwards, crying out "that his Cupid should be saved." This statue is said to have been afterwards transferred to Rome by Nero, and eventually destroyed there by fire.

most other points of view, is extremely picturesque in its outline. In proceeding to Leuctra, which is only a few miles distant, the neighbouring chain of Cithæron began to rise on the right hand; which continuing in an easterly direction, forms the general boundary between Bœotia and Attica. The field of Leuctra, ennobled in history by the memory of Epaminondas and Pelopidas, is less distinct in its locality than that of Platea, where we arrived in less than two hours afterwards; so closely adjoining together are these two celebrated scenes of Grecian prowess, against the barbarians, and against each other. At Platea, the positions of the two armies during the many days which preceded the battle, and the various points in the battle itself, are determined with considerable exactness by the course of the Asopus, — by the small meadow island of Œroe, formed between two branches of this river, — by the ruins of the city of Platea, — and by the ridges and ravines of Mount Cithæron rising above it. The situation of the camp of Mardonius, on the northern side the river, is likewise indicated generally by the nature of the ground; and we may, perhaps, consider a spring in this vicinity, near to the Asopus, as the representative of the fountain of Gargraphia, often alluded to in the narrative of the battle. * I must agree, however, with Mr. Hobhouse's commentary

* It appeared to me, by a comparison at the time, that the map of this ground, given in the travels of Anacharsis, is not one of great accuracy.

on the field of Platea, that it is difficult or impossible to look over this place, without believing that history has exaggerated the number of the combatants. Applying the details of Herodotus to the local features, it seems incredible that a multitude, much greater even than the force in modern battles, should have been assembled on a space of ground, narrow and defined like that between the Asopus and the heights of Cithæron. I do not believe that any reference to the tactics of Greek or Persian armies will obviate this difficulty.

The city of Platea, twice destroyed by the enmity and superior power of the Thebans, exhibits nevertheless at this day more external vestiges of its ancient state, than is the case with its former rival. The outline of the walls, which are of the ancient Greek structure, is every where distinct, and in many places they have still a height of 20 or 25 feet above the ground. The circumference of the city, as thus defined, must have been somewhat more than a mile and half. The area is filled with fragments and ruins; some of which, as at Thebes and Thespia, have been employed in the construction of a Greek church, now also gone to decay. The stone here, like that of the two places just mentioned, is chiefly a calcareous conglomerate. The situation of Platea was fine; on the rising ground above the Asopus, with the woody ridge of Cithæron rising behind; commanding an extensive view of the plains of Bœotia, and of the great mountain ranges which bound this part of Greece.

We passed the night at a small village called Kochli, near the ruins; our place of lodging being an apartment, into which were crowded, besides our own party, a large family of all ages, two horses, nine oxen, and two asses. The inhabitants of Kochli, as well as of other villages in this vicinity, are of Albanian descent, and speak chiefly the Albanian language. The females of this district are dressed in a pleasing manner; their outer garment being of white woollen stuff, with deep red borders, and with tassels and other appendages of the same colour.

The new-year's-day of 1813, was signalized to us by our arrival at Athens. At five in the morning, we quitted Platea, and by the aid of torches carried before us, ascended over rugged paths towards the summit of Cithæron. Darkness was still spread over the plains of Bœotia: but looking back upon them, we saw moving lights here and there, and found that these came from the husbandmen who had already begun the labours of the plough. Crossing the snowy summit of Cithæron, under the dawning of a magnificent day, (the thermometer here was at 28°,) we entered Attica, not far from the ancient town of Eleuthera; the ruined walls of which encircle a rugged hill to the left of the road. Hence for two or three hours we travelled through a hilly and broken country; the mountains composed of a coarse marble, covered with forests of pine, but very bare of other vegetation. Leaving the defiles and narrow vallies of these hills,

we came upon the great Thriasian plain, at the head of the Eleusinian Gulf; the waters of which bay, intercepted by the isle of Salamis, and the line of the Attican coast, were spread before us like a great lake; the forms of the mountains and isles reflected on their placid surface. In the arid and unfruitful soil of this plain, we already recognized one character of the ancient Attica.

Crossing this long level, and leaving Eleusis to the right hand, we entered upon the Via Sacra, the road by which the great processions passed from Athens to the temple of Ceres at Eleusis. It conducted us first underneath the cliffs upon the shore; then by a rapid ascent between the hills Ægaleon and Corydalus, names long since familiar to the ear. * We passed the picturesque monastery of Daphne, conjectured as the site of the temple of Apollo, which once stood in this pass; half a mile beyond, caught a view of the eastern part of the plain of Athens; and a few minutes afterwards, in coming to a break in the hills, heard our Tartar shout with a loud voice, "*Athena! Athena!*" The intimation was needless. We already had the sacred city before our eyes; noble in its situation, noble in its ruins, and in the recollection it gives of ancient times and ancient men. It was now the latter part of the day; and the setting sun (the first setting sun of 1813) threw a gleam of light on the western front of the Acropolis, and on the

* The rock in these hills is marble, much intersected by contemporaneous veins of calcareous spar.

splendid groupe of buildings which cover its summit. Already the Parthenon was discernible, pre-eminent over the rest; the city of Athens was seen spread over a great extent below; the chain of Hymettus beyond; more immediately beneath us the great plain and olive-groves of Athens, conducting the eye in one direction to the lofty summits of Pentelicus; on the other to the Piræus, to Salamis, Ægina, and the other isles of the gulf, and to the mountains of the Peloponnesus in the remote distance. It was a landscape of the most extraordinary kind; such as might strongly interest the stranger, even without the aid of those associations, which every part of the scenery so amply affords.

We descended from the pass of the Sacred Way into the plain; traversed the venerable wood of Olives which occupies its central part; crossed the small and divided stream of the Cephissus, and at five o'clock entered the city, by the gate near to the temple of Theseus. The English, more than any other people, have cultivated the ancient through the modern Athens; and one of the first persons we saw in approaching the place, was an Englishman, looking over an excavation which had been made for the purposes of research.

CHAPTER XX.

ATHENS. — GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE PLACE. — ITS MEMORIALS OF ANTIQUITY. — SCENERY AROUND THE CITY. — CLIMATE. — CHARACTER OF THE INHABITANTS. — MARATHON. — PENTELICUS. — MINERALOGICAL REMARKS. — DEPARTURE FOR THE PELOPONNESUS. — ELEUSIS. — MEGARA. — CORINTH. — NEMEA. — MYCENÆ. — ARGOS. — TRIPOLITZA. — CALAVRITA. — PATRAS. — PASSAGE TO ZANTE.

We remained at Athens till nearly the end of January. I do not attempt to describe this celebrated spot, either in its ancient or modern features. The labours of travellers during the last century, and especially within the last few years, have done so much to illustrate these subjects, that all I could say would be merely the repetition of facts already known. Richly as Athens merits all the talents of the antiquarian and artist, and all the feelings of the enthusiast in former times, it must be confessed that the field is not a neglected one, and that abundant materials of art and knowledge have already been drawn from this copious source of ancient treasures. Copious it may indeed be called; since research here is still amply productive; and the traveller who can afford some time and expence, may himself bring these treasures to light; even without exciting controversy as to the destruction of temples, or the defacement of the memorials of ancient grandeur.

Those who expect to see at Athens only the more splendid and obvious testimonies of its former state, will find themselves agreeably mistaken in the reality of the scene. It may be allowed that the Parthenon, the Theseum, the Propylœa, the temple of Minerva Polias, &c. are individually the most striking of the objects occurring here; yet it may be added that they are less interesting singly than in their combined relation to that wonderful grouping together of nature and art, which gives its peculiarity to Athens, and renders the scenery of this spot something which is ever unique to the eye and recollection. Here, if any where, there is a certain genius of the place which unites and gives a character and colouring to the whole; and it is worthy of remark, that this *genius loci* is one which most strikingly connects the modern Athens with the city of former days. Every part of the surrounding landscape may be recognized as harmonious and beautiful in itself; and at the same time as furnishing those objects, which are consecrated by ancient description, and by the history of heroic actions; and which are still more interesting in their connection with the site of those celebrated schools of philosophy, which have transmitted their influence to every succeeding age. The stranger, who may be unable to appreciate all the architectural beauties of the temples of Athens, yet can admire the splendid assemblage they form in their position, outline, and colouring; can trace out the pictures of the poets in the vale of Ce-

phissus, the hill of Colonos, and the purple ridges of Hymettus *; can look on one side upon the sea of Salamis, on the other upon the heights of Phyle; and can tread upon the spots which have acquired sanctity from the genius and philosophy, of which they were once the seats. The hill of the Areopagus, the Academy, the Lycæum, the Portico, the Pnyx, if not all equally distinct in their situation, yet can admit of little error in this respect; and the traveller may safely venture to assert to himself, that he is standing where Demosthenes spoke to the Athenians, and where Plato and Aristotle addressed themselves to their scholars. Nowhere is antiquity so well substantiated as at Athens, or its outline so completely filled up both to the eye and imagination.

The impressions of this nature, which the traveller obtains, derive much vividness from the number of minute vestiges surrounding him; and these are often even more striking to the fancy than the greater memorials of ancient art. Every point in and around Athens abounds with such vestiges; — the fragments of columns, sculptured marbles, and Greek inscriptions. Scarcely a single house but affords some of these remains; more or less mutilated, indeed, yet all with some interest annexed to them, as the representatives of a past age. This familiarity and frequency with which classic names and images are brought before the eye, cannot fail

* "Purpureos colles florentis Hymetti." Ovid.

of interesting the attention; and it forms one of the most striking circumstances to the stranger in Athens.

The character of the landscape around the city is very peculiar, even without reference to any of the circumstances that have been described. There is a certain simplicity of outline and colouring, combined with the magnificence of form and extent, which contributes much to this particular effect. It cannot be called a rich scenery, for the dry soil of Attica refuses any luxuriance of vegetation; and, excepting the great olive-grove of the plain, little wood enters into the landscape. Yet one of its most striking features is a sort of repose, which may be derived from the form of the hills, from their slopes into the plain, and from the termination of this plain in the placid surface of the gulf of Salamis; above all, perhaps, from the resting point which the eye finds in the height of the Acropolis, and in the splendid groupe of ruins covering its summit. In this latter object there is a majestic tranquillity, the effect of time and of its present state, which may not easily be described, so as to convey an idea of the reality of the spot. The stranger will find himself perplexed in fixing on the point of view whence the aspect of these ruins is most imposing, or their combination most perfect with the other groupes which surround them.*

* The tinge of yellowish red, which has been taken in part by the marble of these temples, gives a peculiarity which may be

The situation and outline of Hymettus, as well as the summits of the mountains of Pentelicus, which terminate the landscape towards the east, add much to the beauty of the scenery around Athens. The three ports of the city are still perfectly distinct, and there are many vestiges of the town of the Piræus; but these objects are on too small a scale to detain the eye, which passes forwards to Salamis, Ægina, and the other isles of the gulf; and to the mountains of the Isthmus of Corinth, and of the Peloponnesus, in the remote distance.

Some part of the peculiarity of this scenery may perhaps be derived from the climate of Attica, which affords an atmosphere for the most part clear, dry and temperate; very different from that which hangs over the low plains and marshes of Bœotia. The peninsular situation of Attica, and the nature of the surface, both contribute to this effect. The temperature at Athens is more uniform than in other parts of Greece, and the quantity of rain falling here below the general average of this country. A few details on this sub-

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considered perhaps to add to their effect. This discoloration arises from the iron in the marble, or in the mica, which forms a part of it. It is said, and it seems to me accurately, that the discoloration is less on those surfaces which are directly opposed to the sea. The cause may be, that the saline particles of the sea atmosphere are constantly yielding a small portion of muriatic acid to the oxide of iron, which is thus insensibly carried away as it is formed.

ject are given in the subjoined note;* and it may certainly be supposed that this character of climate has an influence on the aspect under which its scenery and ruins are presented to the view.

The state of modern Athens does not appear, until lately, to have been known to the rest of Europe. Fancy has drawn for itself a wretched village, with houses scattered among the ruins of temples; and

* I learn from M. Fauvel that the average annual quantity of rain at Athens is 21 or 22 inches. Between the middle of October 1812 and the 1st of January 1813, the quantity did not exceed $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches; a circumstance singular at this season of the year, and considering the heavy rains that fell during the same period in the more northern parts of Greece. From the same gentleman, and from Signore Vitali, one of the physicians of the city, I obtained a few observations as to the maximum and minimum of temperature in different years. In 1804, the greatest heat was on the 24th of July, as high as 104° of Fahrenheit; but this at Athens is a very uncommon temperature. In 1805, the maximum was 99° on the 4th of August. In 1806 and 1807 the temperature never rose above 93° or 94°. The minimum in these different years varied from 28° to 32°. In 1812, the year preceding my arrival, the general temperature had been rather low than otherwise. On the 28th of April snow was lying on Parnes and Hymettus, the thermometer in the city standing at 52°. On the 5th of July it was at 93°, and reached the same height on the 10th of August. On the 21st of September, the heat was at 68°, on the 29th of September at 61°; and at this average height of about 60° it continued during the whole of October. During the month of January, which we passed at Athens, the average of the thermometer at 8 *a. m.* did not exceed 40°: the highest point at which I observed it was 50°, the lowest at the same hour 33°. After our departure, however, the cold became more severe; and what is very uncommon, the snow lay three or four days within the city. The coldest weather at Athens is usually with a north-east wind, as is perhaps the case generally throughout Greece.

few before this time have looked for a large and flourishing town, well peopled, and containing many excellent houses, with various appendages belonging to the better stage of cultivated life. Yet all this will be found here; and on the identical spot which in old times was occupied by the sacred city of Minerva; the name preserved, and a multitude of other circumstances to aid the impression which brings together ages thus remote in reality.

I describe these as the more general impressions which Athens is likely to convey in its external character. The place has its peculiarities also in a moral point of view, as to what respects the manners and condition of its inhabitants. Though of the twelve thousand composing its population, it is probable that a fifth part are Turks, and though the governors both of the town and Acropolis are of this nation, yet the character of the city is principally defined by its Greek population, and all the effective power of the place belongs to this class of the inhabitants. This is chiefly perhaps in consequence of the place not being subject to a provincial Turkish government, but annexed to a particular office of the Seraglio at Constantinople. It may in part, however, be attributed to the character of the Greeks of the city; and it is interesting to remark that some of the features belonging to this people are those which were the most characteristic of the ancient Athenians. They are noted, even in the proverbial sayings of their own countrymen, for quickness, vivacity, and disposition to intrigue;

and this, although their limited commerce gives them fewer opportunities of travelling, and their literary cultivation is much inferior to that of the Greeks of Ioannina, and of the eastern districts of Thessaly. Scarcely a single modern Romaic work has come from the pen of an Athenian; and I have found few among the Greeks so scantily informed of the ancient condition of their country as are the people of this city, notwithstanding their frequent intercourse with travellers from the west of Europe.

Still the fact is true, that the Athenians of this day furnish various striking memorials of their ancestors; whether it be that this is determined by climate, or by something of generic character in the race, which has been able to oppose itself to the lapse of time, and to the changes in political state. The scale indeed is now greatly reduced, but in the internal administration of the city, may still be found the intrigue and cabals, the same democratic spirit and fluctuating feelings, which meet us every-where in the former history of Athens. The election and functions of the four Archons, and the various schemes for limiting or directing the power of the Turkish Vaivode, are now the principal objects of political attention; and these things serve to keep alive the active spirit of the inhabitants, and furnish a basis for party spirit and private feuds. A rude resemblance of Pericles still walks the streets of Athens, in the person of one of the Archons; a man now advanced in age, but

whose faculties are fully awake, and who by dint of intrigue, plausible manners, and knowledge of mankind, has long maintained a paramount authority in the place. This authority, which extends to Turks as well as Greeks, is externally concealed, but not on this account the less real in its effects. *

The state of society in Athens is distinguished from that of other parts of Greece, by its greater vivacity and freedom from restraint. In this circumstance also there will be seen some affinity to the habits of the ancient Athenians, though it must be owned that the probable causes are peculiar in part to modern times. The feebleness of the Turkish government here has contributed to this effect; still more perhaps the constant residence of foreigners in the city. The influence of the latter circumstance is distinctly seen in various habits and feelings of the people; and has been considerably extended of late years, by the direction which English travellers have taken, during their exclusion from other parts of the continent. There is a certain festivity about Athens which does not equally belong to any other Greek town: the oppression of slavery is less visibly present, and is actually felt in a slighter degree by the inhabitants. Even the Turks here seem to have lost something of their harshness, and become a people of quiet and inof-

* I learn that soon after we left Athens a certain degree of change was effected in the government of the city, rendering annual the election of the Archons, and thereby making the *constitution* more democratic.

fensive habits. From whatsoever part of Turkey the traveller may arrive, he finds himself coming to a sort of home, where various comforts may be obtained, that are unknown elsewhere in this country. Society is more attainable, and the Greek females enter into it in general with much less restraint than in Ioannina or other Greek towns.

It is not surprising then, that Athens should have been selected as a place of abode by travellers and artists; conjoining, as they may here, an agreeable residence with the study of the finest remains of antiquity. Englishmen, Frenchmen, and Germans, may almost always be found among the inhabitants of Athens, — the first, however, generally in a tenfold proportion to the others, and taking Athens as a resting place or centre to more extensive research. The few French residents are chiefly old Levant merchants. The consul of this nation, M. Fauvel, is well known by his long abode here, and his industry and ingenuity in various objects of research. The Germans living in Athens are principally artists, employed in Greece in this capacity by different German courts. Of the Italian residents, Signore Lusieri is the only one devoted to objects of art; the remainder either exercise the medical profession, or belong to some inferior station in life. The agreeableness of the place is of course much increased by this Frank population, many of them incidentally brought together with common objects of enjoyment and research.

We were extremely fortunate in finding at Athens at this time, the Hon. Frederick North; who had returned hither some weeks before, after passing the preceding year in Egypt and Syria. A society, always valuable, was singularly so in this place; where Mr. North is regarded by all the inhabitants, with feelings which are rarely given to the passing traveller. * Through the kindness of this gentleman, we speedily became acquainted with much of the society of Athens, and this acquaintance was greatly extended by the many people who sought medical advice from me, particularly during the last fortnight of our stay in the city. Among my patients here, I was enabled to reckon the Turkish Vaivode, two of the Greek Archons, and different individuals in the families of the other Archons, besides various persons of respectable Greek family, though not equally titled in office. A further introduction to Athenian society

* Mr. North's merits as a scholar, and his intimate knowledge of modern Greek literature, have done even less in connecting him with Greece, than his intercourse with the people of this country, and the reputation for generous and enlightened liberality which he has every where left behind him. This is especially true with respect to Athens, where he has aided in various ways the public interests of the place, and obtained the affection of the inhabitants by numerous acts of individual kindness.

We were fortunate also in meeting here the mission of the Dilettanti Society, at this time on their return from the coasts of Ionia. The valuable results obtained by Sir W. Gell and his associates, as well in Asia Minor as in Greece, are now on the point of being given to the literary world.

was afforded us by a ball, which Mr. North gave at this time to the inhabitants. This was not a new amusement to them, as they had frequently been indebted to their English visitors for similar entertainments. The ball in question was attended by more than ninety Athenians, among whom were between thirty and forty ladies, all habited in the Greek fashion, and many of them with great richness of decoration. The dance of the Romaika, which I have elsewhere described, occupied the greater part of the evening; mixed at intervals with the Albanitiko, which was here refined into somewhat less of wildness, than belongs to the native dance. The spectacle was altogether curious and amusing: nor less so the preparation and surmises which preceded the ball, and the scandal of various kinds which followed it; similar in reality to all that happens on less classical ground; though differing in the names, and other minor circumstances of national custom. *

Among other excursions from Athens, we did not neglect the celebrated plain of Marathon; distant about 24 miles from the city, on the opposite coast of the peninsula. The distinct memorials which are still afforded by the tombstones, erected where

* Another spectacle of a different kind, which I saw for the first time in Athens, was the dance of the Dervishes. This strange religious ceremony, which has often been described by travellers, is practised here twice each week in the ancient Temple of the Winds. It is a singular compound of solemnity, and uncouth fanatical wildness; which in parts may be thought even interesting; — more frequently is disgusting or ridiculous.

the Athenians fell; — by the outline of the valley, where is now the village of Vranna; and by the marshes into which the Persians were precipitated in their flight, cannot fail of being interesting to the traveller. It may fairly be said of Marathon, that there are few modern fields of battle, which better authenticate history, or more entirely explain the events which happened on their surface.

In the expedition we made to Marathon, we included the mountains of Pentelicus; a lofty groupe, and picturesque in their forms; interesting also as affording the great quarries of marble, from which the Athenians raised their noblest monuments of art. We visited these quarries, and penetrated to the extremity of the deep caverns which run into the rocks at this place. The highest point in the Pentelicus groupe, forms a sugar-loaf cone, which rises to a great height above the level of the sea. These mountains are further interesting, as they illustrate the geological relations of the marble of this district, in its junction with the mica-slate, which lies beneath as a basis to these elevated points of primitive limestone. The geology of Attica at large is extremely interesting, and would probably well reward the enquiry of the naturalist, who might have time to give his attention to this object. †

† I cannot here do more than give a few scanty remarks on the mineralogy of this district; which possibly, however, may give some aid to future research.

Almost all the ranges of hill, which traverse Attica, are composed of primitive limestone, of which that of Pentelicus is per-

It was very reluctantly that we departed from Athens, on our return through the Morea to th

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haps the most perfectly granular, and certainly of the purest whiteness. That of Hymettus is of inferior quality, and for the most part of a blueish or blackish grey colour; traversed also, as it seems, by more numerous veins. The rock of the Acropolis, of Anchesmus, and of other eminences surrounding Athens, is still of inferior quality, and much worn into caves, which everywhere exhibit a surface, strongly tinged with oxide of iron. I have not actually seen the marble of Mount Parnes; but it probably may resemble that of Icarius and Corydalus, already alluded to.

This marble formation evidently reposes upon one of mica slate, which appears in various places near Athens, and still more remarkably in the Pentelic mountains. The strata of slate may be seen cropping out in some small eminences, a mile to the west of the city, near the road to the Piræus. I have observed them again without the walls, on the side of Colonos. They became more remarkable in the Pass between the greater and lesser Anchesmus, where the road to Marathon passes between rocks of very contorted stratification. Vestiges of this mica slate formation will also be found in the channel of the Ilissus, not far from the Stadium; the rock in most of these places, however, being a good deal decomposed.

On the eastern side of Pentelicus, I traced the mica slate upwards from the Monastery of Mendele, to within 300 yards of the quarries, where the great mass of marble appears reposing upon it.

The general character of the strata is highly inclined; in one place where I measured the inclination, I found it from 50° to 60°. The transition to the marble appears to be gradual, and I could not observe any where a decided line of junction. The marble near the slate contains much mica, and this is gradually lessened in rising higher up the mountain. Even in the marble of the quarries, however, it still appears, and may be seen in that of the broken columns of the Parthenon at Athens. I remarked at Pentelicus, that the slate, where much mixed with marble, has very frequently a greenish colour, resembling chlorite. It does not abound in garnets, though I observed some

Ionian Isles. It was now the depth of winter; and we could not venture to form any lively anticipations of pleasure, even from the scenery of the ancient Arcadia, through which our route lay. The commencement of this winter had been of more than common severity, and its progress unfortunately corresponded with these early appearances. Our Tartar Osmyn had quitted us at Athens, on his return to Ioannina; and we now were attended by a Janissary, a man of quiet manners, and who proved of very little service to our journey. The Morea, however, has of late been so much traversed, that such an appendage becomes here less necessary, to those at least who are already familiar with the usages of Turkish travelling.

We proceeded from Athens to Eleusis by the Sacred Way; passing the salt-pools mentioned by

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small ones. The same formation of mica slate appears on the other side of the Pentelic mountains, extending down to the plains of Marathon and the sea. Some serpentine also occurs on this coast, as well as on the range of Hymettus. The connection of these formations, with those formerly noticed along other parts of the east coast of Greece, will at once be observed.

Some singular appearances occur a little to the west of Athens, near the road to the Pyræus, where an eminence of limestone will be seen, with an extraordinary broken aspect, and traversed by two or three veins, filled with calcareous matter, which is tinged by iron of various shades, and contains here and there many quartz fragments. On the coast at the Pyræus, there occurs a very recent calcareous formation, containing shells.

I regret that I had not the opportunity of visiting Laurium, and of examining the rocks, in which were the ancient mines of this district.

Pausanias, which still retain their ancient qualities. The modern Eleusis is a wretched place, and until lately afforded few vestiges of its former magnificence; but the recent labours of Sir W. Gell have restored, by excavation, the plan of the great temple of Ceres, as well as the Propylæa, and the smaller temple of Diana in the vicinity of it;—an investigation which afforded many interesting results.

The road from Eleusis to Megara conducted us along the woody cliffs which border the strait between the mainland and the isle of Salamis, a route deriving much picturesque beauty from the broken and irregular outline of these shores. We must have passed, in some part of our way, the spot where Procrustes is said to have tortured his victims; but I did not observe any thing which could afford a local illustration of this story. Passing to the south of the mountain, called Kerata from its two peaked summits, we came to the plain and town of Megara; the latter distant from Athens about twenty-four miles. The very frequent preservation of the ancient names in Greece, is a circumstance adding much to the interest the traveller feels in this country. In approaching Athens, we had passed through Livadia and Thebes: we now quitted it by the route of Eleusis, Megara, Corinth, and Argos; all these places named at present as they were in the most ancient times of Greece.

Megara contains about 400 houses; singular

from being all flat-roofed. I have seen few places in Greece where there are so many inscriptions scattered on the ground and in the walls of houses, as in this town. On an eminence to the east of the place, are the vestiges of an extensive building, among which we found a sepulchral marble, with some basso-relievo figures upon it, of considerable merit in the execution.

Our next stage was to Corinth, distant from Megara about thirty miles. The road is one of the greatest interest in its scenery and associations; particularly where, having past the Derveni, or guarded pass, the traveller ascends the lofty ridge of mountains, anciently called Geranion; and at their summit finds himself on a pinnacle between the Corinthian and Saronic gulfs; the celebrated Isthmus of Corinth lying directly beneath him; a thousand objects of classical name lining the shores of the gulfs, or appearing in the landscape further removed from the coast. There are few points in Greece which illustrate at once the history of so many events in past ages. The ridge of Geranion is further interesting, as forming, in its position across the northern extremity of the Isthmus, the great natural barrier of the Peloponnesus, — a barrier which may still perhaps be important at some future time, in asserting the liberties of a part of modern Greece. *

* The Geranion mountains attain a very high level above the seas and intervening Isthmus beneath. They are extremely picturesque in their outline, especially near the Corinthian gulf,

From the mountains we descended to the lower and more contracted part of the Isthmus; a heavy storm of snow and sleet mean-while falling upon us. The interval between the two seas, little more than four miles in breadth, is composed in great part of broken and irregular ground, in few places exceeding 150 feet in height. The remains are still very distinct of the ancient wall which traversed the Isthmus; and there are probably traces also of the canal, by which Nero intended to connect the two gulfs. The place of the Isthmæan Games, and of the temple of Neptune, may very clearly be made out. In approaching to Corinth, the view of the citadel, or Acro-Corinthos, becomes each moment more remarkable; an insulated and precipitous hill, sufficiently lofty to be seen from

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where their descending cliffs form deep semicircular bays, with luxuriant woods extending to the water's edge. The ridge was at this time entirely covered with snow; but from partial appearances, I should suppose that it was a calcareous formation, like that of Cithæron. On the lower part of the mountains, on the Corinth side, I found some fragments of sienite; but whether brought down from above, I will not venture to say. On the same side of the ridge, there is a formation of calcareous conglomerate; curiously reticulated; the interstices for the most part angular; many of the included fragments perfectly nodular, and containing internally a decomposed earthy matter, much tinged with iron, and intersected with numerous contemporaneous veins of calcareous spar. There are some indistinct organic vestiges in this rock. The lower part of the Isthmus of Corinth is apparently of the more recent calcareous formation; but this district requires, and would probably satisfy, a more minute examination.

Athens, though a direct distance of more than forty miles.

The modern Corinth is a small straggling place, containing about 500 houses, with two mosques, and an extensive palace, belonging to the Turkish governor. A wide and fertile plain stretches before it along the shores of the gulf, covered in part with olive-groves. The remains of the ancient city are not adequate to its former splendour; the principal ruin being a portion of what is supposed the temple of Venus, of which only seven columns are now standing. These columns, of the Doric order, are remarkable as having a height of little more than four diameters, a proportion scarcely sufficient to satisfy the eye. The examination of the Acro-Corinthos is destined to gratify future curiosity. Its present character, as a Turkish fortress, and in an important position, entirely prohibits the access of the traveller; and I have known instances where much interest has been employed in vain to procure this license. *

From Corinth we proceeded over rugged roads, rendered almost impassable by the depth of the snow, to the site of Nemea; distinguishable by the ruins of the great temple of Jupiter, and by other vestiges of the ancient city. The three lofty Doric columns, the remains of the great temple, rose

* I understand, however, that through Lord Elgin's interest at Constantinople, Lusieri was allowed once to visit this spot. I am not aware that any observation of importance was the result of this examination.

at this time from a waste of snow; a scene of cheerless desolation, strikingly contrasted with the history of a place, where the Grecian multitude once assembled to the festivity of their games, and the celebration of religious rites.

A route of little more than eight miles conducted us from Nemea to the ruins of the venerable Mycenæ; a spot magnificent in its natural situation, and which affords peculiarly interesting memorials of ancient Greece, such as go back to the most remote periods of its history, and associate us even with the heroic ages of this country. The very early destruction of Mycenæ is well known. The intervention of more than twenty-two centuries has still left behind, the remains of the great Cyclopian walls; the gate of Lions; the large and curiously constructed vault, supposed from Pausanias to be the treasury of Atreus *; a second vault, which fancy might be willing to imagine the tomb of Agamemnon, or of Clytemnestra; and various other vestiges of the same antiquity. There is a massive simplicity about these ruins, and a boldness in their situation, overhanging the ravines of mountain-torrents, which accords well with the history and associations of the spot. Even the single stones have a grandeur of size, which gives to each its character as a part of the whole. The great oblong block, forming the architrave of the door to the treasury of Atreus, has a length of

* This seems to be the same which M. Fauvel, in his memoir on the subject, has considered to be the tomb of Agamemnon.

twenty-seven feet, and some of those about the gate of Lions are little less remarkable. So constructed, it is perhaps scarcely to be wondered that these buildings should have retained their form through so many ages. *

The view from Mycenæ extends over the plains of Argos, lying at its feet; comprehends in the distance the great mountain-groupes of Arcadia; and in the nearer landscape the upper part of the gulf of Argolis; the modern town of Napoli di Romania, on the site of the ancient Nauplia; the ruins of Tiryns, and the yet flourishing city of Argos, surmounted by the lofty insulated rock of its citadel. The remains of Tiryns have the same character of massive, but uncouth grandeur, as those of Mycenæ; and are remarkable for the great Cyclopian galleries, or passages, within the walls. The view of Argos from Mycenæ illustrates different allusions in the Greek writers, and combines to the eye at one moment two of the most interesting points in ancient Greece.

Traversing the fertile plains of Argos, which are watered by the Inachus of old times, and afford an

* The stone of which the walls, &c. of the ancient Mycenæ are constructed, is a calcareous conglomerate; the included fragments calcareous, and frequently of large size. This stone was obtained from the hills, on the declivity of which the city stood. The same material is seen in the neighbouring ruins of Tiryns, and is in fact common in various parts of Greece.

These several remains of Nemea, Mycenæ, and Tiryns, are minutely described in the work on the Argolis by Sir W. Gell, which affords a valuable illustration of this portion of Greece.

abundant produce of corn, cotton, tobacco, and wine, we arrived at the city. Its modern extent is very considerable, and the streets are disposed with more regularity than is usual in this country. The population amounts to about 8000 souls. Scarcely any external vestiges remain of the old Argos; and the works of Polycletes, in his native city, are now either extinct or hidden under ground. The ruined walls of the castle, however, display a mixture of the ancient Cyclopian building, with the more feeble structure of later times; and the fragments of several Doric columns are visible, which may have belonged to the temple of Minerva; as well as a very old and curious inscription which has been given by Sir W. Gell in his work on the Argolis. The site of the celebrated temple of the Argive Juno is still a desideratum to research; but this is to be sought for at some distance from Argos, and nearer to the ruins of Mycenæ. *

At Argos we found a very intelligent physician, and passed some time also at the house of one of the Greek primates of the city. Here we found as strongly marked as elsewhere, that indignant feeling of their political situation, which is at least one step towards the future freedom of the Greeks. An abortive attempt at their own liberation had recently been made, when Veli Pasha was returning with the broken remains of his army from the Danube; but it was without concert or support; and had left no other consequence than an in-

* It is described as being only fifteen stadia from the latter city.

creased degree of that sullen and silent resentment, with which they regard their oppressors. If this liberation should eventually happen, the Morea will probably be the first scene of change; and it is here therefore particularly interesting to note the progress of opinion and public spirit. One great obstacle to the attainment of freedom will be the intriguing and jealous spirit of the Greeks themselves. Personal activity and talent can never be wanting to this people; but union of plan and means will with more difficulty be attained. The restless character of the ancient Greek republicans is not wholly lost, though centuries of slavery have since gone over their heads.

Our route from Argos was to Tripolitza, the modern capital of this province, and situated nearly in the centre of the peninsula. The cold became now each day more severe. At Argos, on the 26th of January, the thermometer, at eight *a. m.*, was at 29°, and we found ice a third of an inch in thickness, which a single night had produced. Under these unlucky auspices we began the ascent of the mountains into Arcadia; leaving to the left the still marshy plain of Lerna, well known as the scene of one of the Herculean labours, and the place where the Danaides murdered their husbands. We soon reached the snow level, which at this time was only two or three hundred feet above the sea, and continued ascending for more than two hours by a most difficult and fatiguing path, rendered doubly so by the snow, which in many places lay to the depth of three or four feet upon the ground.

Here and there the track was almost entirely lost, and we experienced difficulties which another day of stormy weather would have converted into impossibility of crossing the ridge. The road reaches a height, as I should conceive, of more than 2000 feet above the sea, leaving on the right hand mountains much loftier and more precipitous. From this elevated point there is a magnificent view of the whole southern coast of the Argolis, as well as of the rugged chain of hills occupying the interior of this region.* In the distance, and near the mouth of the gulf of Argolis, is seen the small isle of Hydra; a spot which, of late, has become very interesting from the extent and importance of its commerce. Only a few miles in circumference; with a surface so rocky as scarcely to yield the common vegetables; and even without any other water than that collected in cisterns, this little islet has an active and wealthy population of more than 25,000 souls; and a property in shipping, amounting, it is said, to about 300 trading vessels, many of them of large tonnage and well armed. I have heard, and have some reason to believe the statement, that there is a merchant in Hydra, whose acquired property amounts to about a million of dollars, and many others with a trading capital, bearing proportion to this sum. The nature of this commerce presents several peculiarities worthy of notice, some of which I have stated

* From the outline of these hills, I should think it possible there might be primitive rocks amongst them.

below. It is perhaps most interesting as it shews the disposition of the Greeks to active and enterprizing exertion, wherever the obstacles to their progress are removed; attesting the part they would bear in Europe should a favourable change take place in the political situation of Turkey. *

* Hydra is the most remarkable of three or four isles in the Archipelago, which have risen into extensive commercial importance. It is worthy of notice that all these isles are small, and for the most part of barren surface: had they been larger or more fertile, the population would probably have been occupied in the growth, or trifling export of their produce, without entering into the general carrying trade, which is now their great source of wealth. The situation of Hydra has further led to this superior extent of its commerce. Closely adjoining to a fertile province, which abounds in grain and other articles of export, but is subject to a local government, generally ignorant and tyrannical; it has been itself exempt from political oppression, by coming under the more feeble and dispersed authority of the Capitan Pasha. Its barrenness, too, might afford protection to the growth of its commerce; which now protects itself, by enabling the inhabitants to purchase an easy exemption from a power almost too weak upon the seas to oppress them. A small tribute of money, and of sailors for the Turkish navy, secures the Hydriotes from any serious interruption to their traffic, in as far as the Turkish government is concerned.

Their trade consists principally in the transport of the produce of this part of Turkey to other quarters of the Mediterranean, and in bringing back to the Levant return cargoes of colonial and manufactured articles. The chief export, especially of late, has been grain; the scarcity of which for two or three years in the west of Europe, has given an extraordinary stimulus to this traffic. The Hydriote ships, many of them of three, four, or five hundred tons, purchased their cargoes of corn in Greece, Egypt, or Asia Minor; much of it from the Morea, Thessaly, or Macedonia; and carrying it down the Mediterranean, obtained a ready sale, frequently with a profit of 40 or 50 per cent. upon the cargo. The details of this trade

Arrived at the summit of this lofty ridge, we looked to the south over a series of rugged mountain-chains, entirely covered with snow, affording a winterly spectacle of the most splendid kind. I had little expected, however, that Arcadia, which fancy and poetry picture as the abode of spring, of softness, and of beauty, would have presented a scenery of this description; nor did I, in the instant of surprize, recollect that Pausanias speaks of the cold dense air of Arcadia, and of the effect it has in giving austerity to the manners of the inhabitants. It must be noticed, however, that all

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are curious. The capitalists of Hydra, most of whom have originally been the captains of ships, reside in the isle, and lend out their money to commercial adventurers, on the verbal faith (for writings are seldom employed) of receiving a certain interest, 10, 15, or even 20 per cent. upon the proceeds of the voyage. The captains of the ships, who are generally principal owners, are, for the most part, the responsible agents in these transactions. It is the system of the Hydriotes, however, that every person on board their ships, even to the cabin boy, should have a share in the speculation; either in lieu of wages, for which the proportion is duly regulated; or by the investment of the savings which any one may have made. Every Hydriote sailor is therefore more or less of a merchant, and is furnished with the strongest motive to habitual industry, in the opportunity of thereby advancing his fortune in life. The ships of the island have usually very numerous crews, who are reckoned among the most skilful sailors of the Mediterranean. They all retain a strong attachment to their native place, and seldom fail to marry and establish themselves there, when they have acquired any property by their adventures. The city of Hydra is built rather in the Italian than Turkish manner, and contains many excellent houses, furnished in a style even of luxury and sumptuousness.

we now saw before us did not belong to this region. Beyond the ancient Mount Parthenius, we looked forwards upon the rugged chains of Laconia, and in the distance saw the great ridge of Taygetus rising above all the rest. For a moment, the wintry majesty of the landscape might almost have compensated for the failure to the imagination.

Descending from the mountains, we entered a chain of vallies, which better accorded with the description of Arcadian scenery ; villages, situated among woods, on the declivity of the hills ; shepherds attending their flocks with the genuine Arcadian crook in their hands ; others sitting round fires which they had kindled in caves or clefts of the rocks. This transient glimpse, however, was again lost, as we began the ascent of another chain of hills, which may be said to support the central plains of the Morea. The evening was approaching, the cold each moment became more severe, and the steep path of rocky stairs, by which we ascended, was rendered almost a sheet of ice. We reached the summit just after the sun had set, and looked down upon the wide plains of Tripolitza, so entirely covered with snow, that scarcely a single object broke the uniformity of surface. It was one of those wintry evenings, when, with an intense severity of frost, there is a clearness and even brilliancy of the atmosphere, and a deep red glow of the horizon, which are never equally seen at any other time of the year. The thermometer, at this moment, was 8° below

the freezing point; and it continued lowering as we advanced. The plain of Tripolitza has a high level above the sea; and the snow was now lying to the average depth of 18 inches over its surface. After traversing it for some distance, the excessive cold, and the impossibility of keeping the track, compelled us to stop for the night at the village of Steno; where, in a wretched hovel, we huddled, together with a family of twelve people, over the embers of a wood fire. The cold, however, was such, that even in this situation we could procure no warmth. At seven the next morning, my thermometer stood at 18°; and I afterwards learnt at Tripolitza, that at six o'clock it was as low as 16° of Fahrenheit.

We continued our way to this city through the snow; actually crossing a considerable stream on horseback over the ice. Arrived at Tripolitza, we obtained a lodging in the house of Theodosius, the Greek dragoman to the Pasha of the Morea; which might have been comfortable, but for a degree of cold which neither the construction of the Greek houses, nor the nature of the fuel the Greeks employ, are at all fitted to obviate. At 3 *p. m.* this day, the thermometer was at 29°, and it continued below the freezing point for the three succeeding days, which we passed in this city; the wind being chiefly from the north and north-east. It had been our design to have made an excursion from Tripolitza to the site of the ancient Sparta, which is little more than 30 miles distant; but the

snow lay so deeply on the intervening country, that the route was deemed impracticable, and no one would consent to attend us. * A Tartar arrived from Patras on the evening of the 29th, so much affected by the frost, that I was obliged to have recourse to active means to save one of his feet. In short, the degree and continuance of the cold were such, as I scarcely recollect to have experienced in England; and this in the very centre of Arcadia. The people of Tripolitza are inured to severe winters; but they referred back to a season about thirty-five years before, as the only one affording a parallel to the present. The situation of the city, on an elevated plain, surrounded by lofty chains of mountains, explains the peculiar severity of the weather here; but this winter was in fact remarkable in every part of Greece, as well as in the northern parts of Europe, where it produced political consequences of such extraordinary kind. Generally speaking, however, I do not find any distinct proof that the climate is more severe in this country now, than it was in former times. Theophrastus (Hist. Plant. lib. viii.) describes the cold as being usually very great about 40 days after the winter solstice, and we have numerous testimonies of the depth

* The remains of Sparta, though very inconsiderable, yet suffice to shew the position of the ancient city; the scenery surrounding which, in the valley of the Eurotas, and the ridge of Taygetus, is of a magnificent kind. The large town of Mistra, containing about 1,500 houses, is situated in this district. The valley of the Eurotas is very luxuriant in its produce of mulberry-trees, and a great part of the silk of the Morea is from this part of the country.

and continuance of the snow on all the higher lands of this region.

Tripolitza, which has been long the residence of the Pashas of the Morea, is a large walled city, containing about 15,000 people. The situation of the place is level, excepting the eminence, on which stands the fortress. A third or fourth part only of the population is Turkish. The Seraglio of the Pasha, near the northern extremity of the city, forms an extensive groupe of buildings, without regularity or splendour. We visited a Kiosk, or pleasure-house, erected by Veli Pasha, near the fortress; one of those strange compounds of ornament and deformity, which are so common in Turkey; yet, on the whole, displaying more taste than is usual in these buildings. The interior of Tripolitza is mean and irregular, and affords little to interest the stranger.

Our host, Theodosius, was an excellent specimen of the modern Greek; intelligent, well acquainted with the world, managing, and fond of intrigue. His situation, as well as that of all connected with the Seraglio of Tripolitza, had latterly become somewhat critical from the arrival of Veli Pasha's successor in the Morea. Achmet Pasha, the present governor of the province, is a Turk in the strongest sense of the word; a man of stern unyielding mind, and bigotted to all the prejudices of his nation. The portion of European refinement which Veli had given to the court of Tripolitza, was already lost to it; and though his suc-

cessor displayed less sensuality, and practised fewer extortions, yet his cruel disposition had already shewn itself; and in the course of the first five months of his government, more than sixty people are said to have suffered death. An anecdote was told me in Zante, of two of his own nephews being bow-strung, for visiting a bath which he had ordered them not to frequent; and there was considerable authority given to this story, by the source from which it came. Many began to believe at this time, that the people of the province would repent themselves of their eagerness to get rid of Veli Pasha, in their dislike to his more violent successor. The Moriote Greeks have the character of being extremely quick and susceptible, and of interesting themselves in political affairs more than most of their countrymen. This is probably an effect of their having been more lately subdued by the Turks; of the large proportion their own population bears in the province; and of those natural advantages of position which may eventually aid them, both in regaining and defending their freedom. I have already alluded to the circumstances in the Greek national character, which, while they might urge forward the first steps towards a revolution, would certainly retard the complete liberation of the country.

We became acquainted with several of the Greeks of Tripolitza; amongst others, with the physicians Antonio Vitora, and Michael Kava; the former a Cephaloniote, the latter a native of Argos. Vitora

was an agreeable man, who had studied at Padua; and there became the pupil and friend of Volta. He had brought with him to Tripolitza, a Voltaic pile, which of course excited much surprise and admiration at this place. The library of Vitora, which I examined, contained about 800 volumes; including some of the best English, French, and Italian medical authors.

From Tripolitza, we contrived with difficulty to walk four miles through the snow to visit the site of Tegea. The remains of this once considerable city are now very trifling; and the ruins of a Greek episcopal church upon the spot, barely serve to shew some fragments of old magnificence, in the broken columns and capitals, which have been inserted into its walls. I could not find here any inscriptions that are still legible.

The state of the weather at this time disappointed all the plans of our journey through the Morea; and instead of taking a road through the southern and western parts of Arcadia, and along the banks of the Alpheus, we were obliged to seek the shortest, and now the only practicable route, to Patras at the entrance of the gulf of Corinth, with the design of embarking thence for Zante. This journey also, though not affording so many objects of classical repute, would have been very interesting, in its display of Arcadian scenery, had not the same circumstances of weather thrown a wintry aspect over the whole country; making the landscape less that of Arcadia, than of the High-

lands of Scotland at the same season. During the three days occupied by our journey from Tripolitza to Patras, the thermometer scarcely ever rose above 36°, and in the night fell considerably below the freezing point. The snow covered not only the mountains, but even the plains and vallies; offering in many places the most serious obstacles to our progress. It is true, that the whole of this region, even where it approaches the sea, is on a very high level; and every-where broken by mountain-ridges and summits, which are among the most elevated in Greece. But this winter was general in its influence; and at Patras, on the morning of the 4th of February, I saw the thermometer at 27°, though this place is close to the sea, and with a westerly exposure.

Seeing the country under these circumstances, I can but state the outline of the route by which we traversed it. We left Tripolitza on the 30th of January; attended by a Tartar, named Achmet, and by an Arab, who was travelling to the western coast of the Morea, and was obliged, from the present state of the country, to take this route. Six miles to the north of Tripolitza, we passed the site of Mantinea, the scene of the celebrated battle which lost Epaminondas to the Thebans. The vestiges of the city are very distinct, in the outline of the ancient walls, and in the ruins of the theatre, which was of considerable size.

From Mantinea, we took a north-west route to the village of Lebedi, 15 miles from Tripolitza,

where we passed the night. From this point the views towards the north were of the most magnificent kind: beneath us, the deep vallies and lake of Orchomenos; and beyond, successive ridges of mountains; rising in the distance into various lofty summits, the most conspicuous of which was the Mount Cyllene of the ancients, fabled as the spot where Mercury descended from heaven. This mountain is the highest of the Peloponnesus, and may be regarded as one of the most elevated points in Greece. The scenery surrounding it is of the finest kind, both in its magnitude and picturesque character.

Another day's journey of about 30 miles brought us to the village of Southena; situated on the ascent of a mountain ridge, which forms the highest point of level in the route between Tripolitza and Patras. At intervals, during this part of our progress, we had glimpses of true Arcadian scenery, amidst the general gloom of winter which surrounded us. The vallies of the Ladon or Tragus, and of the Aroanius, rivers which flow south-west to join the Alpheus, afford landscapes rich in wood, in water, and in cliff; and deriving additional character from the situation of the villages, and the appearance of the shepherds, conducting their flocks along the skirts of the mountains.* The

* There are some geographical difficulties, as respects the course of the Aroanius and the Erymanthus, in his delineation of which D'Anville is by no means accurate. The Tragus is

country continues to be entirely calcareous; the rock a greyish white limestone, regularly stratified, in some places with great inclination of the strata. High among the cliffs, which line the valley of of what may be presumed the Aroanius, stands the Greek monastery of Spilio; in a spot which none but the most refined superstition could have chosen for the abode of man. Ancient manuscripts, I believe, have been sought for here, but without success.

From Southena, we crossed the mountain ridge, already mentioned, to Kalavrita; a large town singularly situated in one of the deep ravines on its northern side. The precipices and forests of this ridge afford a scenery of the finest kind; but the passage over it was rendered so dangerous by the depth of the snow, and the obscurity of the track, and so unpleasant from the excessive cold, that it was impossible to derive enjoyment from any source. At Kalavrita, which is probably near the site of the ancient Cynethæ, we procured fresh horses, and pursued our journey over a hilly country, covered at intervals with extensive forests of oak and beech, to the valley of a considerable river; which, from the direction of its course towards the gulf of Corinth, may perhaps be the Crathis or Selinus of antiquity. The geography

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the river coming from the lake of Orchomenos. Like many other Grecian rivers, and particularly those of the Peloponnesus, it flows for some distance under ground, after leaving the lake.

of this part of Arcadia, however, is comparatively little known, and requires much further elucidation.

The scenery along the course of this valley is extremely interesting. The forms of vast mountains fill up all the openings towards the distant landscape; the hills immediately bordering on the valley are lofty and abrupt, being formed of a calcareous conglomerate, which here and there has been so decomposed, as to leave pinnacles of rock, which resemble on a smaller scale those of Meteora. Following the valley upwards for some miles, we ascended the hills among which some branches of the river rise, to the solitary Khan of Gotzumeza, where we passed the night. From this spot there is a singular view towards the south and east, of successive ridges of mountains, rising beyond each other as far as the eye can reach. The arrangement of the high land in Arcadia, seems to be somewhat different from that of the northern parts of Greece. The mountains are more indiscriminately crowded together, and not in general separated by the same wide intervening plains as in Bœotia, Thessaly, and Epirus.

We passed a miserable night at Gotzumeza; the thermometer several degrees below 32°, and the wind coming in upon us through a thousand apertures in the roof and walls. Another Tartar arrived this evening from Tripolitza, severely bruised by a fall from his horse. The two Tartars and the Arab took up their abode for the night in the same room with us, all crouching together on the ground before the embers of the fire.

From this Khan to Patras is eighteen miles, the intervening country rendered picturesque by the woods which cover its mountains and vallies. The exit from the lofty region, which forms all the interior of the Peloponnesus, affords one of the finest spectacles that can be conceived, in the suddenness with which a vast landscape is opened out before the eye. The fertile plains of Patras are spread immediately beneath, stretching to the shores of the gulf, which, from the contracted passage between the Rhium and Anti-rhium, gradually expands between the receding coasts of the Peloponnesus and Ætolia. The splendid promontories of Calydon and Taphiasus; the mouths of the Evenus and Achelous; the modern castle and city of Lepanto, representing the ancient Naupactus; the expansion of the gulf of Corinth underneath the mountains of Locris Ozolia, with many other objects of classical note, are seen in front of the landscape: the mountains of Acarnania, of Cephalonia, and Ithaca appear in the more remote distance. Till descending to the plains of Patras I had no sufficient idea of the great elevation on which we had been travelling for some days past. Our descent, which was very steep, occupied more than an hour, and on a moderate estimate could not have been less than 1500 feet, though we approached the edge of the declivity along a valley. The rocks among which we passed, exhibited in their section a very fine specimen of the alternation of layers of limestone and flint formerly described.

Patras is a town of some consequence, containing nearly 10,000 inhabitants, and having a considerable commerce in currants, grain, and oil, the produce of its own luxuriant plains. The article of currants is the most important, the annual export from this district and the adjoining one of Vostitza amounting to more than 5,000,000 lbs. The most remarkable object in the town is the castle, which however has greatly suffered from an explosion of gunpowder three or four years ago. A small chapel in the environs, dedicated to St. George, serves to commemorate the assistance this saint *visibly* afforded to Don John of Austria, in the celebrated naval battle of Lepanto, which took place near Patras in 1571.

Several European consuls reside at Patras. We were hospitably lodged by M. Strani, the English consul, at whose house we found Mr. Craven and Sir W. Gell, awaiting an opportunity of embarking for Zante. The detention arose chiefly from an apprehension of the pirates, who at this time, notwithstanding the vicinity of the Ionian Isles, infested the coast of the Morea and the entrance of the gulf of Corinth; availing themselves of French licences to afford a sort of authority to their depredations. We made an arrangement with these gentlemen, to accompany them in the passage to Zante. A large decked boat was procured: we left Patras at noon on the 4th of February, with a wind from the north-east, which towards evening blew so violently that we reached

the harbour of Zante the same night. Some fears of a quarantine were carried with us, but on our arrival it was matter of much satisfaction to find that it had been taken off two days before.

The journey through the Peloponnesus, just related, was unfortunate beyond calculation in all the circumstances attending it. To a certain extent I afterwards retrieved this misfortune by an excursion I made in the month of May over the plains of the ancient Elis, and along the beautiful banks of the Alpheus, to the site of the celebrated Olympia. At this time the country was glowing with beauty; and though the severity of the winter still shewed itself in the snows covering the mountain summits, all beneath was true Arcadian scenery; and might have been taken in its inhabitants, as well as in its natural features, to fill up every picture which the fancy draws of this region.

CHAP. XXI.

DEPARTURE ON A SECOND JOURNEY INTO ALBANIA. — LANDING AT PREVESA. — INTERVIEW WITH ALI PASHA. — NARRATIVE OF AN EXCURSION TO THE UPPER PART OF THE GULF OF ARTA. — ALI PASHA AMONG THE RUINS OF NICOPOLIS. — DEPARTURE FOR IOANNINA BY THE ROUTE OF SULI. — LURO. — ENTRANCE AMONG THE SULI MOUNTAINS. — SERAGLIO OF SULI. — WAR OF ALI PASHA WITH THE SULIOTES.

The promise I had given to Ali Pasha of returning for a short time to see him before I quitted Turkey, still remained to be fulfilled. The intention of fulfilling it was confirmed by letters which had arrived in the interval at Zante, in which the Vizier strongly expressed his desire of seeing me again. As at this time I proposed to limit my second visit to Albania almost exclusively to this object, it was satisfactory to me to learn that he still continued at Prevesa, where he had passed the whole of December and January with his court, and attended by some thousands of his Albanian soldiers. I formed my plan then for setting out thither, while my friend, whose affairs called him to Sicily, proposed to embark in the earliest packet for that island. A fortnight, however, intervened before any opportunity occurred of departure, dur-

ing which time I made the short excursion to Cephalonia, of which a relation has been given in a preceding part of this volume.

The severity of this winter in the Ionian Isles was proportional to that we had already experienced on the continent of Greece. The snow had lain some time in the streets of Zante; and in Cephalonia, the lagoon at the upper part of the gulf of Argostoli had been frozen over a great part of its extent. All the upper ridges of the Black Mountain of Cephalonia were still completely covered with snow.

I sailed from Zante on the 17th of February, and arrived at Santa Maura, after a passage of two days. From thence I crossed over to Prevesa, and landed here amidst the crowd of Albanian soldiers who at this time occupied every avenue and corner of the town. The Vizier had his residence in the old Seraglio of Prevesa, the new building being still not prepared for his reception. My arrival was speedily made known to him, and he immediately sent down the physician Lucas to express his gratification on my return, and his desire of seeing me at the Seraglio. He appointed me at the same time a lodging in the house of Panagiotaki, the principal Greek merchant now remaining at Prevesa, after the many changes that have occurred in the population and fortunes of the place. I was fortunate in obtaining such a place of abode, at a moment when every dwelling of the town was crowded to excess. The Vizier had brought down with him

from Ioannina many of his ministers and principal officers, and I found Sakallarius and Metaxà, as well as Lucas, in medical attendance upon him. His residence at Prevesa had now, as on former occasions, been marked by various traits of despotic severity; and anecdotes were given me afterwards of different Greek residents of the place, who were sent up to Ioannina as prisoners, to compel them to the payment of sums of money demanded by the Vizier.

In my first interview with Ali Pasha he received me in the most friendly manner, expressing warmly his satisfaction in seeing me again, and saying at the same time that he had never doubted my adherence to the promise I had given. He asked many and minute questions regarding my journey, my residence at Larissa, and the health of Veli Pasha. One or two inquiries about Salonica attracted my notice by their tone and manner, as if something lay concealed beneath them of which he would not openly speak. He alluded to the letters I had written to him from Larissa and Athens, and appeared to have been gratified by them. We afterwards conversed respecting his health. I found that he was better on the whole than when I quitted Ioannina, and that he had adopted some of the precautionary means I then recommended. He inquired as to my future plans, and again repeated his desire that I would continue with him as his physician. He hoped, at least, that as I was now in Albania I would remain some time

longer in this country; and promised me every facility I could wish for in travelling, and in visiting what I might consider worthy of examination.

I mentioned to the Vizier my desire of making an excursion to the upper part of the gulf of Arta along its southern shores; with the view of examining some ruins of which I had heard in this situation. He assented immediately to the project, and ordered two of his soldiers, who were well acquainted with this part of the country, to attend me as guards.

I set out upon this excursion on the evening of the same day, a boat having been appointed to convey me up the gulf. My two Albanian guards, Kapsamouni and Fissouki, were men of fine appearance, but with a degree of untamed ferocity of manner, which I have seldom seen surpassed. Their amusement, as we proceeded up the gulf, was in firing shot at the fishermen's boats; chiefly, as it would seem, to shew their dexterity in the use of the fusil. In one or two instances, when the fishermen fled in dismay, they took deliberate aim at the men themselves, accompanying this with the common opprobrious epithet of *Keratas*,* and a thousand other phrases of bitter import. I had difficulty in preventing a still more savage use of their power, when stopping at different hamlets on the shores of the gulf; and it was only by alleging the authority of Ali Pasha that I could put a check to their rude violence.

* The meaning of this term, which is universally employed in Greece, will be obvious in its derivation.

I stopped a short time at Vonitza; the situation of which, on an inlet of the gulf, points it out as the site of the ancient Limnæa. Beyond this place the shores are rendered extremely beautiful by the alternation of promontories and bays; the richly wooded surface rising behind towards a lofty mountain groupe, which occupies the central part of Acarnania. From the woods lining these shores is procured a great part of the timber exported from the gulf; and several Maltese vessels were at this time lying here to take in their cargoes. Some of the oak timber is of size sufficient for all the purposes of ship-building, but much small wood also is cut down for exportation.

These forests, on the shores of the gulf, have long been the resort of banditti, and the active police of Ali Pasha has scarcely yet succeeded in effecting their annihilation. The most vigorous efforts, however, have been made with this object, and Albanian soldiers are stationed at various points on the coast to assist in accomplishing it. While waiting for a change of wind in a small bay to the east of Vonitza, my guards and Greek servant went up to a hamlet, a mile from the shore, to seek for provisions, leaving me in the boat. During their absence, a band of six Albanian soldiers came down to the beach, and imperiously inquired what I was doing there, or something to this effect. I was alone, and unable to satisfy them, but fortunately found the pipe of Kapsamouni, which had been left in the boat; and the leader of the band,

on examining it, cried out immediately, that it belonged to his brother. On this discovery they dispersed in various directions through the wood, and firing their fusils, soon collected my guards, as well as several other Albanians. The two brothers, thus accidentally brought together, cordially saluted each other: a large fire was kindled in the wood, a goat killed, and instantly spitted whole upon a wooden pole, and the party seated themselves on the earth around this rude kitchen apparatus. The dusk of the evening had now come on; the fire threw a singular light on the stern countenances and forms of the Albanians, who at intervals were joined by others of their comrades from amidst the depth of the woods. Such a scene on the shores of Acarnania was not devoid of interest. The goat being roasted, it was cut, or rather torn into fragments, and the party made a rude and hasty feast around the fire. This finished, I re-embarked on the gulf with my two guards, the remainder of the party firing their fusils over our heads as a compliment on our departure.

The gulf at its upper extremity, about 30 miles from the mouth, forks into two branches, with a low peninsula between. We took the southern branch, and proceeded to its highest point, where it circles round in the form of a beautiful bay, underneath the wooded hills which rise from the water's edge. On one of these hills which forms an insulated ridge running back in a south-east direction from the bay, are situated the ruins of the

ancient city, which it was one of the principal objects of my excursion to examine. The walls, forming the principal object in these ruins, skirt along nearly the whole extent of the ridge; including an irregular oblong area, about a mile in its greatest length, but of much smaller breadth. The structure of these walls is Cyclopian: they are of great thickness; and on the eastern side, where built with most regularity, are still perfect to the height of more than twenty feet. Two gates of the city are distinctly visible; that on the western side, which appears to have been the principal, is approached by a series of steps, of great breadth, and extremely well constructed. The space included within the walls is thickly overgrown with trees and brush-wood. I traversed it in various directions, but without being able to discover any inscription, or other remains than those of dilapidated walls.

From the southern extremity of the hill, at the highest point of the ruins, is a fine view of the long valley through which lies the route from the head of the gulf of Arta to Mesalongia, near the mouth of the Aspro-potami; a distance of between 40 and 50 miles. A lake, the name of which I believe to be Agrilos, spreads its waters along this valley for a length of about six miles, but is so narrow as to resemble a broad river. A Greek monastery stands near its northern extremity, and a village, called Ambracia, on the ascent of the hill above this building. We may perhaps suppose this village

to have been settled originally from Ambracia, since it is not possible that the city itself should have been situated on this part of the gulf. Though I cannot venture to speak with certainty, yet I am led to believe that the ruins just described may be those of Stratus, one of the Ætolian cities mentioned by Thucydides in his history of the Peloponnesian war, and again by Polybius and Livy, in their account of the wars between the Romans and Macedonian kings. The situation of these ruins corresponds well with that which they assign to Stratus, and is not equally applicable to any other ancient city of this district.*

There is no apparent stream from the lake of Agrilos into the gulf of Arta, though in M. D'Anville's map, (and others have copied from him,) the river Inachus coming from Argos of Amphilochia, is represented as entering the gulf at this point. The country stretching eastwards to the Aspro-potami is high and rugged, but may be traversed by a day's journey from the

* Livy speaks of Stratus as on the Ambracian gulf, in the nearest point to the river Achelous. The same appears from a passage in Polybius, lib. v. c. 2. Strabo (lib. x.) speaks of there being a carriage of 200 stadia, from Stratus to the Achelous; which accords with the length of the journey between the gulf of Arta and this river. I am not aware that any traveller has fixed the exact situation of Thermum; a place described by Polybius, in the passage quoted above, as the citadel of Ætolia, and where there was a temple containing 2000 statues. Stratus has been generally placed on the Achelous, and Argos of Amphilochia in the situation of the ruins described above; but on the whole I am disposed to think that this cannot be correct.

Palaio-Kastro, as the ruins of this ancient city are termed.

The southern coast of the gulf of Arta, and probably all the hills in the interior of Acarnania, belong to the great calcareous formation of Greece. No peculiarity appeared in the rocks which I saw during this short excursion.

I made a rapid passage down the gulf of Arta to Prevesa. The morning after my return, I passed some time with the Vizier; who, among other topics of conversation, enquired my opinion as to the desirableness of erecting a new fortress on the site of the ruins I had just visited. The position, he well remarked, was an important one, both for the general defence of the country, and in reference to the extinction of the robbers who infest this province. At this interview, he again urged me so strongly to go up the country a second time to Ioannina, for which city he was himself setting out in a few days, that I acceded to his wish; connecting with this plan, the further scheme of travelling through some parts of Albania, which had hitherto been seldom visited; and particularly the mountainous region of Suli, which has lately acquired celebrity by the long resistance its natives opposed to the power of Ali Pasha. Besides the expectation of much extraordinary scenery among these mountains, I was further directed to this scheme by the desire of tracing the course of the ancient Acheron; which river, I was persuaded, must be looked for in this region, and not in the vicinity of

the lake of Ioannina. It was fixed then at this time, that I should be provided with an escort to convey me to Ioannina, by the route of the Suli mountains and Paramithia; with any other deviation I might be inclined to make from this road. The Vizier interested himself in the scheme of the journey; and sketched out in a rude manner, on paper, the relative situation of different objects which he conceived to be worthy of observation.

Two days still elapsed before I quitted Prevesa. On the morning of the 26th, I accompanied the Vizier, who was attended also by some hundreds of his guards, to the ruins of Nicopolis. He went thither to examine some excavations he had ordered to be made, with a view to the discovery of marbles, coins, or other relics of the ancient city; influenced probably in this, by the report of the profitable research which had been recently carried on in the Morea, during Veli Pasha's government of that province. I rode from Prevesa to Nicopolis in company with an officer of the Vizier's, and on a horse splendidly accoutred, which Ali Pasha had sent me for the purpose. When arrived amidst the ruins, I found the Vizier sitting on a crimson velvet couch which was placed on the ground, near the great transverse wall of the city, and above an excavation which had just been made. He was surrounded by his Albanian guards, with several of his ministers and secretaries. He desired me to sit near him, and asked my opinion as to the research which was going on. The spot was evi-

dently not favourable, and I could not give him any encouragement as to the probable results. I found him acquainted, generally, with the fact that Nicopolis was founded to commemorate a naval victory near Prevesa; but of the period and other circumstances he was wholly ignorant.

After some conversation, he desired me to point out the places I regarded as more likely to lead to discovery. Having explained to him that the probable value of research here was less than in a Greek city, I went with Lucas and two soldiers; and after some examination fixed upon two or three spots, where it seemed to me that excavations might be made with some likelihood of success. Returning to the Vizier, I found that he had just dined among the ruins, at his usual hour of 12 o'clock; the dishes for this purpose having been brought out from Prevesa. He was then sitting under a broken arch, with some of his secretaries around him, occupied in receiving petitions and administering justice. Ali Pasha, in this situation, among the ruins of the ancient city of Augustus, was a spectacle not a little strange and curious in its kind. After remaining an hour or two longer on the spot, he returned in his carriage to Prevesa; some of his guards attending him on horseback; the greater number running by the side of the carriage, with a rapidity for which the Albanians are very remarkable. All such athletic exertions are studiously encouraged by Ali Pasha; who is well aware of the value of that hardihood of person and

habits which marks the character of his Albanian soldiery.

On the morning of the 1st of March, I set out on my journey for the mountains of Suli. The Vizier appointed three guards to attend me; two of them Mussulman Albanians, and officers in his army; the third a Christian, but of inferior rank. Tachir Aga, one of the former, was son of the commandant of the Suli fortresses; the other, named Chirko, a native of Paramithia. The Vizier sent me likewise one of his own horses for my journey; a matter rather of shew than of use, since it was impossible to leave my attendants, who were all mounted on the horses of the post. The splendid trappings, with which it was adorned, I soon found it convenient to exchange for my own simpler and more convenient travelling apparatus.

My first day's stage was only to the village of Luro, about twelve miles to the north of Prevesa; the intervening country variously broken by low hills, tolerably well wooded, and richly cultivated. The houses in Luro are all built of reeds and mud. Near the town flows the river of Luro; which, rising at once from a large fountain in the mountains at Aios-Georgios, to the west of the road between Arta and Ioannina, enters the gulf of Arta through the marshes in the vicinity of Salaora. In two or three different situations near Luro, are the ruins of towns or fortresses, the vestiges of ancient Epirus, and of some of the many places in this

country, which decayed or were destroyed during the Roman wars here.

After sleeping on the earthen floor of a cottage, I continued my journey towards the great fortress of Suli, distant about twenty-two miles from Luro. My escort was now increased by two other Albanian soldiers, whom Tachir Aga ordered to attend us through the mountains. Our route for some miles was through a broken irregular country, thickly covered with wood. After this, we entered an open valley, stretching in a northerly direction for ten miles; a stream descending through it to join the river of Luro. The valley is well cultivated, chiefly with maize; and large flocks of sheep were feeding on the skirts of the hills which form its boundary. Here, as every-where else in Greece, I found a good deal of caution to be necessary in passing these flocks, from the fierceness of the large dogs attending them; and the same caution is required, especially in Albania, in approaching at night any cottage where these animals are kept. This I speak from experience, having three times had my clothes torn by them; and once, when I had no great coat on, not without much risk of further injury. These shepherd's dogs of Greece are probably the lineal descendants of the Molossian dogs, celebrated in former times for their strength and ferocity. — Ælian calls them Θυμικωλάδοι κυνων, and this epithet answers well to their character at the present time.

Passing a low ridge beyond the valley just de-

scribed, I came to the banks of a stream running in an opposite direction, from south to north, to join the river of Suli. Two miles beyond, I reached this river, which descending in a south-west course, through a valley of considerable width, makes at this place a sudden and remarkable bend towards the north, and enters by a narrow pass the wild and magnificent region of Suli. The landscape here is singularly fine; and the sudden change in the character of the scenery of very extraordinary kind. The river of Suli rises by different streams in the country to the west of Cinque Pozzi; passes the village of Sestron or Sestroni, which gives name to a part of its course; and in the valley just alluded to, flows underneath a high ridge of mountain called Valdunesi. From the place where I reached its banks, to the castle of Suli and the plains of Paramithia, the scenery along its course is altogether more singular than any other I have seen in Greece; striking as this country is in all its natural features.

Crossing the river by a deep ford, where it makes this sudden turn to the north, I ascended the mountain on the eastern side of the Pass or chasm, which it now enters; and which is so much contracted by opposing cliffs, to the height of some hundred feet above the stream, that no access is possible, except along the higher ledges of its mountain-boundary. The ascent was one of extreme difficulty, and some danger. Skirting under the summit of the mountain, upon narrow and

broken ledges of rock, I came to a spot where the interior of this profound chasm opened suddenly before me; vast and almost perpendicular precipices conducting the eye downwards to the dark line, which the river forms in flowing beneath. The view from this place I have never seen surpassed in grandeur; if grandeur indeed be a word which expresses the peculiarity of the scenery; not only its magnitude, but also the boldness and abruptness of all its forms; and a sort of sombre depth and obscurity in its features, to which it would not be easy to find a parallel. In one view you may trace the progress of the river for six or seven miles, between mountains, some of which are upwards of 3000 feet in height; their precipitous sides beginning to rise even from the edge of the water; their projecting cliffs and ledges covered with small oaks and brush-wood; and higher up, where they recede further from the perpendicular line, retaining the same sombre character from the dark thickets and rows of pines, which appear at intervals among the rocks.

When first looking down into this great chasm, the impression came upon me, that this river must assuredly be the real Acheron of the ancients; though I had the geographer Meletius in my hand, who, with other writers, gives this name to the modern Kalama, a river further to the north. My first impression, however, finds a decisive confirmation in the testimony of ancient authors; whose evidence on the subject is so distinct, that it is

somewhat surprising it should have been mistaken. This evidence indeed chiefly relates to the mouth of the river, and to the Acherusian lake, which is near its entrance into the sea; but it is not less satisfactory on this account; and we may fairly conclude that there was some metaphorical relation between the extraordinary scenery of this stream, as it passes through the mountains of Suli, and the picture of the infernal regions adopted by ancient mythology. It would be needless to cite all the passages, which bear upon this geographical point. One in Thucydides, considering the accuracy of this writer, would alone perhaps be sufficient; where, in describing the voyage of the Athenian fleet from Leucadia to Corcyra, he points out distinctly the relative situation of the mouth of the Acheron; the Acherusian lake, through which this river flows when near the sea; the promontory of the Cheimerium; and the mouth of the Thyamis, now the Kalama, further to the north. * Different passages in Herodotus, Strabo, Ptolemy, and other writers, concur entirely on this subject †; and it is

* Thucyd. lib. i. 46.

† Herodotus more than once speaks of the Acheron as flowing through Thesprotia; a description which is not entirely applicable to the modern Kalama. Strabo, following the line of the coast southwards, describes in succession to the small isles of Sybota, and the Cheimerium promontory, the Γλυκυς λιμην, εις ὁν εμβαλλει ὁ Αχερων, ποταμος ρεων εκ της Αχερουσιας λιμνης, και δεχομενος πλειους ποταμους, ωστε και γλυκαινειν τον κολπον. — The port Glykys, here mentioned, retains its name to the present time. The enumeration given by Ptolemy of the places on this coast, entirely corresponds with the same relative situation of the

interesting to notice, that the small isles of Sybota, and the port called Glykys, at the mouth of the Acheron, both of which are important in the description of these authors, actually retain the same names to the present day; a kind of evidence more decisive than could have been expected in a case of this nature. It is an additional proof of the river of Suli being the true Acheron, that there is within less than a mile of its mouth, a small lake, or expanse of the river, corresponding well in situation with the Αχερουσια λιμνη of Thucydides *; while, in the course of the Kalama, I am not aware of there being any lake but that of Tzerovina, which is far distant from the coast, and forms in fact one of the sources of the river. This does not better accord with the Acherusian pool, than the lake of Ioannina, which some have supposed to represent it; and there can be little doubt that the Kalama is the Thyamis, and not the Acheron of antiquity.

It is well known that the names of Acherusia and Acheron were not limited to Epirus; but it appears certain that the lake and river of this region were the most celebrated, and perhaps the most anciently known in their connection with my-

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Acheron; and Eustathius, in his commentary on the 10th book of the Odyssey, renders it evident that the river of Suli represents this celebrated stream, falling into the sea at the port Glykys.

* I was not at this spot, but I learn from Psalida, that the lake is about three miles long, and a mile and half in breadth, not very deep, and surrounded by hills of small elevation.

thology. * The story of Pirithous, Theseus, and Hercules, is doubtless related to this spot, as proved by all the geographical circumstances of the narrative; and probably also, that of the descent of Orpheus into hell. I enquired, when at Suli, respecting the quality of the waters of the river. It was told me, that at particular times they were remarkable for an offensive taste and odour; but as I could not myself perceive this, I do not venture to cite it as a further proof of the identity of this stream, with the Acheron. The evidence, however, already stated, was sufficient to give me the fullest assurance on the subject; and to render every circumstance about this district very interesting both to the eye and the imagination. †

I continued my route along the extraordinary valley I have described, following a rugged path which winds among the rocks, forming its eastern barrier, at the height probably of 600 or 700 feet above the bed of the river. When advanced about four miles within the chasm, we turned suddenly to the right, up a deep recess among the mountains.

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* Pausanias (lib. ii. p. 196.) mentions an Acherusia near Corinth; and Diodorus Siculus (lib. i. 86.) speaks of one in Egypt, in the neighbourhood of the Catacombs. It appears from Strabo, that there was an Acheron in Elis, and we learn from Pomponius Mela, (lib. i. c. 19.) of another river of this name in Phrygia. That of Italy is well known.

† Some Romaic writers have conjectured that Suli may be the locality of the Selloi of Homer and the ancient geographers. This supposition, however, does not seem to rest on any other ground than the similarity of name.

From this place there seems to be no egress; vast pine-covered precipices meet the eye on every side, and no one point seems accessible beyond the spot where you stand at the moment. A second sudden turn brought me to an ascending cork-screw path, so steep and rugged, that it was with infinite difficulty the luggage-horses could gain the summit. This circuit is necessary from the increasing abruptness of the chasm through which the river flows, as it approaches the central part of Suli. From the lofty point I had now attained, the scenery of this central region opened out in a very magnificent manner. The insulated mountain-heights, on which stand the fortresses of Suli, before seen at intervals through the deep Pass by which we had been approaching them, were now directly in front of the landscape; the river flowing in its profound channel underneath, but here entirely concealed from view. We hastened our progress towards the principal of these fortresses; and Tachir Aga, with another soldier, went forward to announce our approach to his father the commandant.

While approaching the great fortress, or Seraglio of Suli, we passed through two of the Suliote villages, now completely ruined and without inhabitants; many of the houses thrown down, others destroyed by fire. The Kako Suli, as the most northerly of these villages was called, contained formerly some hundred habitations, all of which are now in ruins. The ascent to the insulated hill, on which are placed the Seraglio, and two other of

the fortresses built by Ali Pasha for the security of the place, is just beyond this ruined village. On my entrance into the area of the Seraglio, I was complimented by a salute of four cannon, and a volley of small arms:—the reverberation of the sound from the neighbouring mountains was wonderfully fine. I was met at the foot of the great stairs by Mouctar Aga, the commandant; and conducted through two long galleries, into a large apartment in which the Vizier resided, during two visits he has made to Suli. Mouctar Aga is a fine looking man, between 50 and 60; of pleasing manners and much politeness. Besides the recommendation of being born in a district near Tepeleni, the inhabitants of which are personally attached to the Vizier, he has served with great credit in the wars of Ali, and was the first person wounded in the battle with the French at Nicopolis. His situation at Suli is one of high trust, and he has occupied it ever since the country was subdued. The Vizier, I found, had sent him a letter by his son, enjoining him to shew me the utmost attention, as long as I chose to remain at Suli. I was accordingly received with great deference, and had but to express a wish on any subject, to obtain its gratification.

While smoking with the Aga, soon after my arrival, he gave me some anecdotes of that singular warfare with the Suliotes, which, during seventeen years, occupied occasionally much of the attention and military resources of Ali Pasha. Of this warfare I shall give a slight sketch, derived from dif-

ferent sources of information which fell in my way.

The people of the Suli mountains, who, from their wild and secluded situation, had acquired all the characters of a distinct tribe, inhabited ten or twelve small towns or villages, the principal of which was distant about a mile from the modern * Seraglio. They were Albanians in origin, belonging to the division of that people called the Tzamides. While many of their countrymen had become Mahometans, the Suliotes retained the Christian religion; but in a rudeness of form accordant with the manner in which they lived. Their number probably never exceeded 12,000, of whom between three and four thousand were capable of bearing arms. The peculiarities of their situation gave a wildness and masculine daring to their character, which distinguished them from the other Albanian tribes. The Suliote women partook the dangers of war with their husbands, and bore together with them the miseries which their community afterwards suffered. It is related as an anecdote, that at one of the fountains of Suli, the females settled the precedence in drawing water, according to the respective bravery their husbands had displayed in battle; and in the progress of the war with Ali Pasha, some of their number displayed a fearless resolution, which could not easily be surpassed by the other sex.

* The territory of Suli was divided into four *Choria*, or districts, viz. Suli, Kiafa, Avariko, and Samonica.

In noticing, however, this feature of the Suliotes, it is necessary to add, that it was in some measure the bravery of a band of robbers, organized into social life, continuing their character through successive generations, and combining some generous qualities with their rapine and ferocity of habit. They were the terror of the southern part of Albania; and the descent of the Suliotes from their mountain-fastnesses, for the sake of plunder or vengeance, was a general signal of alarm to the surrounding country. The region of Suli was itself rarely approached either by friend or enemy, and had never been subdued by the Turkish power in Albania; though various contests had occurred at different periods with the successive governors, or independent rulers of their country. The ambitious spirit of Ali Pasha could not tolerate the vicinity of a people who insulted his authority, and pursued their predatory excursions, even into the plains surrounding his capital. His first efforts against them were comparatively feeble, and only very partially successful. As his power increased, his hostility became more formidable, but was still diverted at intervals by the other enterprizes he was carrying on. Year after year an irregular warfare was continued, many of the details of which, though in themselves of little importance, are carefully preserved in the Albanian songs. The Suliotes depended chiefly on the nature of their country and their own knowledge of it, and had few forti-

fications but those of their native passes and cliffs. The interior region of Suli is accessible only from two or three points, and these approaches of such nature, that no number of troops could be of avail against them. If their enemies gained any advance of ground during the summer, they were generally obliged to relinquish it in the succeeding winter; the situation and desperate bravery of the Suliotes giving them the advantage which they wanted in numbers. The troops of Ali Pasha were stationed for the most part at the entrance of the passes; while the Vizier himself employed bribery and other indirect means, in aiding the efforts of open force. The treacherous seizure of Lampro Giavella, one of the principal of the Suliote leaders, did but animate the spirit of this people, who were aware that mercy was not to be looked for from the hands of Ali Pasha. Giavella himself escaped by leaving his son a hostage in the hands of Ali. This intrepid and singular man sacrificed his son to his love for his country. He rejoined the little band of the Suliotes, urged them to revenge, and bore a conspicuous part in every contest they supported against their enemy.

The warfare continued of this kind until within two or three years of its termination. The Vizier at this time devoted more attention and a larger force to bring it to an end. His troops thus employed are said to have been occasionally as many as 15,000 men, and his sons Mouctar and Veli were repeatedly their leaders in the war. After various

attempts he succeeded in gaining possession of a mountain which is elevated, though at some distance, above the Kiafa of Souli, the site of the modern fortress; and here a building was erected for the shelter of his troops. The Suliotes still, however, maintained their ground; and it is said that the Vizier accomplished his final object, chiefly by the bribes and promises he held out to their principal leaders. His soldiers, thus aided, entered by force the villages of Suli, and possessed themselves of the slight artificial defences which the Suliotes had prepared. The latter, headed by their priests and animated by their women, continued the combat to the last. A female named Cheitho distinguished herself greatly in this extremity; and Samuel, one of the Suliote priests and leaders, is said to have blown up the building he had been defending, when it could no longer be saved from the enemy. Finding themselves surrounded, and losing at length every hope, they became desperate: a considerable number cut their way through Ali's troops and fled; some slew themselves; a still greater number were slain. It is related as an authentic story, that a groupe of Suliote women assembled on one of the precipices adjoining the modern Seraglio, and threw their infants into the chasm below, that they might not become the slaves of the enemy. A part of the Suliote tribe found refuge in Parga and Corfu; as it is said, by agreement with the Vizier, who probably adopted this measure to prevent the effects

of despair in a brave people. His intention, however, was obvious of extirpating the race from the country. He destroyed almost wholly the towns of Suli, and peopled the few habitations which were left, with Albanians from the northern part of his dominions. The principal village of Suli, to the north of the Seraglio, now contains scarcely an hundred inhabited houses. On the two great insulated cliffs, which impend over the river in this central part of the region, Ali Pasha erected his fortresses; keeping always a considerable number of troops here, and thus rendering the interior of his dominions more secure, by positions which were once a principal disturbance to his power.

This war with the Suliotes terminated about ten years ago. While travelling in Albania, I heard various other anecdotes, illustrating the bravery of this people, and the stratagems employed on both sides. I do not detail these, as I cannot vouch for their authenticity, and as they might appear to give too much importance to the warfare against a small mountain-tribe of Albania. *

The Seraglio of Suli is included within the area of the great fortress, recently erected by Ali Pasha. In architecture it is much the same as other Turkish buildings; in situation it is scarcely perhaps to be paralleled. From the great gallery you look down a precipice not much less, probably, than a thou-

* A detailed narrative of this Suliote war, was published in the Romaic language at Venice, in 1815, under the title of Ιστορια Σελιω και Παργας.

sand feet in height, into the dark waters of the river below; which so seen, is a fit representative of the ancient Acheron. On every side is scenery of the wildest and most extraordinary nature, with a disorderly magnificence about it, which forms perhaps its most striking peculiarity. The mountains and precipices, all on the greatest scale, are thrown confusedly around, as if some other agency than the slow working of nature had operated to produce these effects. The eye, looking generally over the scene, is perplexed at first by its vastness and intricacy, and requires some time to select the objects on which to repose. Towards the south, and over the peaked summits which environ the Seraglio, is seen the long chasm-like channel of the Acheron; beyond it the country stretching down to the gulf of Arta; the gulf itself, and the mountains of Acarnania, in the remote distance. To the west, you look down precipices intersected by deep ravines to that point in the river, where, receiving the stream of Zagouri from the north, it turns at once to the west; and continuing its course for some way between cliffs of immense height, makes a sudden exit from its confined channel into the wide and fertile plains of Paramithia. Its windings on these plains may be far traced, while the distant landscape embraces the sea and chains of hills stretching along the coast. The view towards the north is full of the finest mountain-scenery. It is, in fact, a vast amphitheatre of mountains; the space within them not a plain

country, but every-where intersected by ridges and profound ravines. Through the principal of these ravines flows the river Zagouri; the dark and secluded character of which might admit of its being called the Cocytus, were there not some doubt as to the situation of this stream, in reference to the Acheron and the Acherusian lake. The ruined remains of several of the Suliote villages appear among the cliffs which border on these deep vallies.

The mountain on which the fortresses of Suli have been erected, has a singular semi-lunar form; terminating at the summit in a ridge so narrow, as barely to admit a narrow path, leading from one fortress to another. Of the buildings in this situation, only the fortress of the Seraglio is fortified with cannon, some pieces of which I observed to be of English manufacture: two other edifices are inhabited by Albanian soldiers; the fourth, placed on the highest pinnacle, to the north of the Seraglio, has never yet been completed. Having been twice struck with lightning, a superstitious belief has arisen, that it is impossible to erect any building on this spot, and the work has been discontinued. Between this pinnacle and the Seraglio, an immense ravine descends from the summit of the ridge; so nearly perpendicular, that a fragment of rock thrown down, may be heard, after a long interval, plunging into the waters of the river below. From one of the precipices impending over this ravine, it is related that the Suliote women threw their children, when the contest for their

liberty had come to an end. To such a spot the epithet given by Aristophanes, Αχερουσιος σκοπελος αιματοσταγης, "*the rock of Acheron dropping blood*," may indeed be well applied. *

Separated from the northern extremity of this mountain by a deep hollow, is another insulated ridge, on which has also been erected a large fortress, commanding the road to the plains of Paramithia, which descends between the two. The village of Suli is situated under this fortress on the eastern side. A mosque has lately been built here for its present Mahometan population.

The whole groupe of the Suli mountains, as well as the rocks that form the eastern barrier of the valley, are composed of the white conchoidal limestone, formerly described; containing a great quantity of flint, which is for the most part arranged in alternate layers, but in some places also in nodules in the limestone. These layers, which vary in thickness from a few lines to two or three inches, are sometimes well defined in their junction with the limestone; in other places there is an apparent transition from one to the other, or frequently a thin seam of oxide of iron, and decomposed earth, interposed between them. The nodules are generally much shattered, so as to break into small angular fragments with a slight blow of the hammer. In various parts of the cliffs of Suli, the limestone is exposed in a series of regular beds to a great extent, and in some places with a very great inclination.

* Aristoph. Ranæ, 474.

I remained in the Seraglio of Suli till the 4th of March; making excursions in its immediate vicinity; and with the few instruments I had by me, mapping the outline of the country as accurately as could be done from two or three points of view. * The old Aga, though lame from his wounds, walked with me to visit the different fortresses; and was assiduous in his civilities within the Seraglio. An excellent dinner, consisting of ten or twelve dishes, was each day served up to me in the Turkish style; the *chalva*, *dulma*, and other dishes cooked in the best manner, by the females of the family; whom, however, the Turkish usage prevented me from seeing during my stay here. I was waited upon at dinner by three or four Albanian soldiers, dressed in the manner of their country. My guard, Tachir, was not allowed to sit down in the presence of his father who maintained much state and dignity in his situation. This old man shewed the utmost veneration for his master, Ali Pasha; and gave me some interesting anecdotes regarding a period of his life, when he was but beginning his career.

Among the other guards of the Seraglio of Suli, were a number of dogs, the most ferocious animals of their species I ever recollect to have seen. Their presence made it impossible to move out of doors, without the protection of some of the Albanians stationed in the fortress.

* These papers, with maps of other parts of Albania, I afterwards lost.

CHAP. XXII.

DEPARTURE FROM SULI. — AIA-GLYKY. — PARAMITHIA. — SULLOPIA. — JOURNEY DOWN THE RIVER KALAMA. — SOULIAS. — RUINS AT PALAIA-VENETIA. — RETURN TO PARAMITHIA. — ROUTE TO IOANNINA. — RUINS NEAR DRAMASUS. — RESIDENCE AT IOANNINA.

On the 4th of March, after exchanging salutations with Mouctar Aga, I quitted the Seraglio of Suli. Though this edifice seems almost to hang over the junction of the Zagouri with the river of Suli, yet it required a steep descent of nearly an hour to reach this spot. Crossing the river at the point where it suddenly turns to the west, we continued our course along its southern side; sometimes receding to avoid the deep chasms which descend to it; sometimes pursuing a dangerous path on narrow ledges of rock which hang over its waters. One point in this route is very extraordinary, where the path, scarcely four feet in width, passes at the height of about 150 feet above the river; and so entirely impends over it, that a stone dropped from the hand, somewhat stretched out, falls far within the water. Above the head are great cliffs, forming a magnificent front on this side the river; while on the other, the precipices are equally abrupt, and

the mountain rises above into heights, which atthis time were deeply covered with snow. The poplars appearing at intervals among the scenery, may bring to mind the old story of Hercules having carried this tree from the banks of the Acheron into other parts of Greece. The Pass formed at this place is almost impracticable to the traveller; wholly so to an enemy. Just below it on the northern side, a large stream joins the river, by a subterraneous channel through the rocks, from which it rushes out with great violence. Nothing can be finer than the retrospective view from this point, of the cliffs, peaks, and fortresses of Suli.

The broad valley of Paramithia, or as it is generally called, the plain of Glyky, now opened at once before us; and the river, leaving its dark channel, spread out into a wide stream, which flows in a winding course towards the sea. The distance of Porto Fanari, or the Port Glyky, which is its æstuary, may be from 16 to 20 miles, in a south-western direction from this place. The river in this interval has the name of Glyky, derived no doubt from the ancient name of this æstuary. The plain through which it flows is very fertile, and there are many large villages upon it. The ancient towns of Pandosia and Ephyre were situated in this district*; and to go further back into old times,

* Pandosia is known in connection with the Dodonæan oracle, which denounced to Alexander king of Epirus, that he should avoid this city and the Acherusian water. He did so in Epirus, but found his death in Italy, where there were places of the same name.

we may suppose that here were the dominions of Aidoneus or Pluto; by whom Theseus and Pirithous were imprisoned, in consequence of the unlawful attempt of the latter to carry away his wife. This history, and its connection with the mythology of the infernal regions, may further be maintained, by supposing that Hercules, coming to the release of his friends, penetrated through the Passes of Suli, which no very violent metaphor would make into the jaws of hell, and thence entered the territory of Aidoneus. There are certainly passages in ancient mythology, which derive less vindication than this from the places where their scenery is laid.

I crossed the river a second time, where it comes out from the Passes of Suli. Here its breadth may be about that of the Thames at Oxford. I remained two hours at a guard-house on its northern bank, called Aia-Glyky, from a church which formerly stood on this spot, but which was thrown down during the war with the Suliotes. Among the ruins of the church, I found the remains of seven columns of Egyptian granite, and several of marble; some of which, from a capital in the wall of the guard-house, I presume to have been of the Corinthian Order. There was also a marble pavement of the church; and I was told of one or two inscriptions, which unfortunately at this time were covered by the Indian corn and rice, forming the stores of the guard-house. Of the date or history of this church, I am unable to speak.

If there were any ancient city on the spot, it possibly might have been Pandosia, though it must be added that the character of the remains just described, does not indicate remote antiquity.

Thirty soldiers are stationed at Aia-Glyky, which in the war of Suli, was a point of much importance. Having received notice from Mouctar Aga of Suli of my intended arrival, these men had roasted a large goat, which, with coffee, pipes, milk, and honey, was set before me soon after my arrival.

From this place to the city of Paramithia, is five hours' journey in a northerly direction, along the broad valley, through which the river of Paramathia flows to join that of Suli. This valley, the breadth of which varies from three to five miles, is fertile and well cultivated; the produce chiefly maize, wheat, rice, tobacco, &c. Its boundary on the eastern side is the range of the Suli mountains, continued towards the north, and forming a continuous line of precipices of vast height; on the western side a chain of hills, much less lofty, but terminating somewhat abruptly towards the valley, and exhibiting in their sections a fine example of inclined and contorted stratification. Their composition is wholly calcareous.

The plain of Paramithia is very populous; numerous towns and villages appearing in very picturesque situations on the skirts of the mountains; some of these almost enveloped in wood. The greater number have a Mahometan population, others are exclusively inhabited by Christians; the

local separation of the two religions being for the most part very distinct. The most considerable of these towns is Carbonari, on the western side of the valley, said to contain nearly 800 houses.

The city of Paramithia is situated near the upper extremity of the plain, on the lower part of the mountains forming its eastern boundary. The town, however, rises so far up the ascent, that there is a difference of level of at least four or five hundred feet between the lower and higher parts of it. The upper extremity is formed by a bold projecting mass of rock, on which stands the old castle of Paramithia. On another insulated hill is situated a small fortress or guard-house. The city contains about 9000 inhabitants; but is built so irregularly, as to cover a surface proportionally much more extensive; the houses no where being collected into regular streets, except in the Bazars, which form the central part of the town. The greater part of the population is Mussulman, and there are five mosques in the place. It is, however, also the seat of a Greek bishopric, conjointly with Parga; the bishop taking his title from both places.

The mountains, which are a continuation of those of Suli, rise to a great height directly above Paramithia. In two or three places within a few miles of the city, there are the remains of ruined walls, indicating the situation of some of the ancient towns or castles of Epirus. I had the opportunity of seeing only one of these places, about four miles to the south of the city. It was an object of some

interest with me to enquire at Paramithia, respecting the beautiful bronzes said to have been found here; some of which are at present in the fine collection of R. P. Knight, Esq.; a few in the possession of J. Hawkins, Esq.; and several reported still to remain in Russia, whence those now in England were obtained. * I lodged at Paramithia in the house of a Greek of some intelligence, and several other Greeks of the city came in to visit me; but, after every enquiry, I was unable either to learn any thing as to the bronzes actually discovered, or to ascertain the existence of others on the spot. I left a commission with one of the Greeks to make further enquiries for me, which, as I afterwards heard, were equally unavailing.

While at Paramithia, I decided on making an excursion down the river Kalama, the ancient Thyamis, which flows through the district to the north of the city. The principal motive for this journey was an idea I had at the time, which is certainly a mistaken one, that the site of the oracle of Dodona was to be sought for in this part of Epirus. I also wished to examine the ruins of a large city, which were described to me as being on the banks of the Kalama, a day's journey from

* Mr. Knight has eight entire bronze figures, said to come from Paramithia; of which two Jupiters and an Apollo are among the most beautiful pieces. He possesses also three fragments of the same reputed origin; one of them a bronze representing Ulysses carried out of the cave under the ram. Five of the Paramithian bronzes are said to remain in Russia; but in whose possession is not exactly known. Nor is it well ascertained how they were carried into that country from Greece.

Paramithia, and which Meletius calls the site of the ancient Pandosia. For this excursion I obtained an additional guide from the Aga commanding at Paramithia, who had received a written order from the Vizier to forward my views in every instance.

Leaving Paramithia early in the morning, I proceeded in a N.W. direction to the upper part of the valley; where the river, which takes its name from the city, has its sources in various torrents, gushing out suddenly from the limestone rocks, and supplying the tobacco and corn-mills which have been erected here. At the village of Neochori, I ascended a ridge of hill, from the summit of which was seen the beautiful valley of the Kalama in front; and beyond this a hilly and picturesque country, rising in the distance into lofty snow-covered mountains. We descended through a village, built amidst a grove of trees, to the banks of the Kalama, which here is about sixty yards in width, and brings down a large stream of water. This river rises in the country to the north of Ioannina; and the general outline of its course is in a S.W. direction towards the Ionian Sea, which it enters nearly opposite the southern extremity of the isle of Corfu.

Having been informed of some ruins in the vicinity of Sullopia, a village to the north of the river, I deviated from my proposed route to go thither. We forded over the Kalama, not without much difficulty, though following the directions of some peasants, whom the authority of my Albanian

guards had summoned to the spot. The view up the valley from this point is very striking; its boundaries, particularly on the east side being formed by the precipices, which may be considered to terminate in this direction, the range of the Suli mountains. From the right bank of the river, I proceeded to Sullopia, distant about twelve miles from Paramithia. It was well that I had entertained but slender hopes of discovery here. Instead of ancient remains, I found only a wretched village of Turkish Albanians; the few inhabitants I saw in which, regarded me with suspicion and anger; and, but for the menaces of my soldiers, would probably have driven me from the spot. My enquiries, as to ruins in the vicinity, were wholly fruitless, and scarcely answered but by compulsion.

Quitting this place with few regrets, I continued my course for some miles in a S.W. direction to regain the banks of the Kalama, through a hilly but fertile country, with many villages scattered over its surface. We came again to the river, five miles below where we had forded over it, and at a place where it enters a narrow defile, between perpendicular limestone cliffs of great height. These cliffs present a very fine stratification of the rock, which is also singularly broken into tabular masses of large size. I ascended an elevated point to the ruins of a tower, whence I had a very striking view of the ravine through which the river flows beneath. Passing through this ravine, which is

two miles in length, we came upon a circular plain, where the soil is extremely rich, and the tillage of the ground, chiefly for maize, conducted with great neatness. A number of villages appear on the skirts of the surrounding hills, the houses grouped among the trees, and the landscape remarkably pleasing in its character, with more of softness than usually belongs to the scenery of Albania.

On a richly wooded hill, on the left bank of the Kalama, stands the town of Soulias, where I proposed to pass the night. We crossed the river, which is here deep and rapid, by a horse ferry; and ascended to the town, which is several hundred feet above, by a steep and winding path. I was interested by finding the whole of this hill to be composed of a highly crystallized lamellar gypsum; the effect of the colours and crystalline appearance of which was in many places very beautiful. Nothing can be more picturesque than the interior aspect of Soulias; the houses scattered through a thick wood of olives and other trees, and deep glens intersecting the town in different directions; while the elevated situation shews at intervals, through breaks in the wood, the views of distant mountains, or of the valley and river below.

An application to the Codja-Bashee of the place procured me a lodging in the house of a Greek priest; a poor old man, whose habitation consisted of a single room, with an earthen flooring, and little other furniture than the straw mats, on which

he himself, his wife, and four children, slept around the fire. He was extremely loquacious; and, in the evening, having taken somewhat too much *rachi* or spirits, became vociferously merry. He talked much of the discoveries he had made among the ruins at Palaia-Venetia, the place I was about to visit; which discoveries, as I afterwards found, had no existence but in his own fancy. He spoke also, with an air of mystery, of the ancient treasures concealed at this place; and gave some strange anecdotes of a nameless Italian who had come hither in a secret manner, and availed himself of some peculiar means of finding out where these treasures lay. In the course of the evening I visited two or three adjoining cottages, to examine stones with inscriptions upon them, which had been brought hither from the ruins. All the inscriptions were sepulchral, and afforded nothing very interesting. The eldest son of my host joined us at night, a young man who had served in the Albanian regiment of the King of Naples, and had recently returned from Sicily, in consequence of the regiment being disbanded.

The following morning I visited the ruins at Palaia-Venetia, on the northern bank of the Kalama, two or three miles below Soulias. Besides my other guards, I was accompanied to this spot by three Albanian soldiers, sent by the commandant of Soulias; nominally to do me honour; but really, as I had every cause to believe, to act as a watch upon me, and observe if I discovered any

thing precious. The story of treasures existing here is very general in the vicinity, and entirely credited by the inhabitants. Why these ruins have been selected for such rumours, in preference to others, I am unable to say.

Crossing the river, we continued along its right bank to the spot. On each side, the valley, which is narrow, is bounded by hills of moderate height, composed entirely of the same gypsum which forms the hill of Soulias. The highest point of these hills which I saw, may perhaps be about 500 feet above the level of the river. The gypsum is, for the most part, of the usual greyish white colour, in some places with a tinge of blue.

The ruins at Palaia-Venetia are within a bend of the Kalama, which leaves a considerable extent of nearly level surface, below the hills on the north side of the river. In their present state, they consist of little more than the ancient walls, which, after following the semi-circular bend of the river, on the edge of the declivity that overhangs it, ascend on the western side the hill behind the city, and skirt along it even to the summit. The situation is still further insulated by the deep valley of a river, which, descending from the mountains to the north, joins the Kalama just at the place where the bend is completed, and the river resumes its former course. The walls are built in the accustomed manner with square or oblong stones, which are of the largest size, where the structure is most regular. I measured several which were

six, eight, or ten feet in length, with a breadth of three or four feet and proportionate thickness. In one place, the remains of a large gateway are very distinct; about 200 yards from which a great wall branches off from the walls surrounding the city, and descends to the edge of the river; where there are the remains of a square building, perhaps intended to prevent the passage of an enemy along the flat ground which lies close to the river, or possibly to protect from attack those who were employed to bring up water to the city.

Within the outer walls are others, which appear to traverse the city in different directions, and also the ruins of houses and other buildings. I observed many sculptured fragments, particularly in one spot, where I think it probable are some of the sepulchres of the city. After much search, however, I could not find a single stone with any inscription upon it, nor did I see any columns or vestiges of temples upon the spot.

The circumference of the area, occupied by the city, may be somewhat more than two miles. I ascended the hill behind the ruins, following the course of the wall. From the summit, where there is now a small Greek church, I had a very extensive view of the great plains through which the Kalama flows from this place towards the sea. The coast itself enters into the view at intervals, from the port of Parga northwards to the promontories, formed by a chain of hills which meet the sea opposite Corfu. This island stretches to a great ex-

tent before the eye; and even the city of Corfu was distinctly visible at the head of a bay on the eastern side of the isle. On the declivity of the chain of hills just mentioned, I remarked the large town of Saiathes. Another considerable place, called Margariti, was also comprehended in the view before me. The peninsula of Parga formed a distinct object in the landscape; the town upon which, containing four or five thousand inhabitants, and extremely strong from its position, has usually been annexed to the possession of Corfu; and together with this island passed from the power of the Venetians, successively into that of the Russians and French. At this time the French flag was flying on its fortifications, and the possession was certainly of some importance in reference to Corfu, as affording a point of connection with the continent, and of refuge against the English cruisers, who were stationed here to blockade the island. It is the only place on this coast which does not belong to Ali Pasha, whose earnest wish it is to make himself master of the town; less perhaps from the desire of increasing his power, than from hostility towards the inhabitants, and thirst of revenge for real or presumed insults which they have offered to his power. Parga has frequently been a place of refuge to those who have fled from his territory; and shelter afforded to his enemies is an offence which Ali Pasha has never forgiven. The Pargiotes regard him with a mixture of fear and detestation; and even if left without aid,

would probably avail themselves of their position to make a vigorous resistance to his views. *

We are furnished with but scanty materials as to the ancient geography of this part of Epirus, — a deficiency which is very evident in all the modern attempts to illustrate it. It appears generally that the portion of Thesprotia, stretching into the interior between the rivers Thyamis and Acheron, had the name of Cassiopeia; derived perhaps in the first instance from some relation to the city of Cassiopeia, on the opposite coast of Corfu, but afterwards, as it would seem, describing a distinct power in Epirus. Strabo speaks of four cities in this district, Buchœtium, Elatria, Batiæ, and Pandosia; but it may be inferred from Ptolemy, and other authors, that there was also a city expressly called Cassiope †, and this probably at some distance from the coast. It seems likely that the ruins just described are those of one of these cities,

* January 1819. The course of political events in 1814 removed the French flag from Parga, as well as from Corfu. The Parguinotes, after repelling bravely an attack made on them by the forces of Ali Pasha, cordially received the English into their town, hoping for an efficient defence from our power. Unhappily the treaties made at Vienna assigned them over to the Porte, or what was virtually the same, to the power and vengeance of Ali Pasha. A better knowledge of the circumstances has hitherto prevented a surrender, which would have been equally unjust and cruel as a political act. Parga, at the moment I am writing, is still under English protection; and it may be hoped that English honour and humanity will still be maintained in our relation to this little community.

† There is some perplexity as to this point, since Ptolemy speaks also of a port Cassiope on the coast of Chaonia.

or possibly of the Gitanæ mentioned by Livy, but I cannot venture to decide which. Meletius has called them the remains of Pandosia; but this was under the idea of the Kalama being the Acheron, on or near to which river it appears certain that Pandosia was situated. * This supposition regarding the Kalama has already been mentioned as an erroneous one. Fortunately the doubt is of little importance, since there are very few passages in history which would obtain illustration from its solution.

It may be worthy of mention, that the house and estates of T. Pomponius Atticus, the friend of Cicero, were situated on the plains near the mouth of the Thyamis; doubtless on some part of the landscape upon which I looked down from the hill at Palaia-Venetia. Frequent allusion is made to this place in the letters of Cicero and elsewhere. †

A hilly country extends along the coast, to the north of the Kalama, sheltering the port of Butrinto, which is directly opposite to the isle of Corfu. This place, now of very small importance, was the Buthrotum of antiquity, well known in the narrative of the Æneid; its port, the Portus Pelodes of the same age. Still farther to the north, the promontory of Posidium may be recognized; but this

* Strabo, lib. x.

† Epist. ad Attic. lib. iii. lib. vii. &c. Cornelius Nepos says, that the estates of Atticus were situated almost wholly in Epirus.

part of the coast I had not the opportunity of surveying during my stay in Albania.

After remaining some time on the hill above the ruins, I descended to my guards whom I had left below. I found three of them amusing themselves by discharging their loaded fusils at some peasants, who were ploughing on the opposite side of the river; while Tachir was abusing with much vehemence, and many blows, another poor peasant, who had declared his ignorance of any concealed treasures among the ruins, and was unwilling to be dragged by force from his plough, on a search where he had no information to give. Releasing these poor people by drawing off my rude Albanians, I returned to Soulias, and revisited the old priest, who was now perfectly sober, and a little ashamed when I reminded him of the discoveries, of which he had boasted among the ruins. He fairly confessed, however, whence these discoveries came; and we concluded our acquaintance in good humour, by making together a meal on eggs and goat's milk.

In returning to Paramithia from this place, I travelled along the southern bank of the Kalama, passing in my way through several large villages, inhabited by Albanians, chiefly Mahometans in their religion. In one of these villages, called Ratzari, I was struck by the appearance of 40 or 50 houses burnt down, or destroyed. On enquiry I found that there had been a feud of long continuance in the place; which ended in the more powerful party destroying the habitations of their

enemies, and driving them out with fire and sword. Near this place, the flint occurring in the limestone is sufficiently good to be used for the manufacture of gun-flints.

I was received by my former host at Paramithia with a profusion of caresses, which made me suspect some reason for this superfluous civility. The matter was afterwards explained, by a request that I would use my influence with the Vizier, to induce him to remit the payment of 1000 piastres, which had recently been required from this family. I was obliged to decline all interference in the business; promising merely that I would speak to the Vizier of the kindness with which I had been entertained by the family.

Early on the 7th of March, I quitted Paramithia on my way to Ioannina, which is distant about twelve hours journey in an easterly direction. A steep ascent of some miles, through a pass in the mountains to the north-east of the city, brought me to a wild and rugged spot, where, when Ali Pasha took Paramithia, his troops had an action with the people of the place, in which about 140 men were killed. Thence we descended along the valley of a stream, which, after uniting with a more considerable one from the south, flows northwards to join the Kalama. The view from this route of the northern extremity of the Suli mountains is very fine. Near the junction of the two rivers, we found the dead body of a man; who, as we learnt from a peasant, had been murdered here two days

before. This act was said to have been committed by robbers, but the story was told in a doubtful manner.

We were now in sight of the mountain-ridge, called Olitzka;—that which is seen from Ioannina in a S. W. direction. Its general aspect is very striking, as well from the great elevation, as from the gracefulness of the outline, in which there is a good deal of resemblance to that of Helicon in Bœotia. The tract of country between Olitzka, and the Suli mountains, is occupied by successive ranges of hills, of subordinate formation to the great chains, which traverse the country. These hills seem to be chiefly composed of the *debris* of old calcareous rocks, forming a loose conglomerate, extremely subject to decay; in consequence of which this district is every-where intersected by deep valleys and hollows. Between Paramithia, and the ridge of Olitzka, the population of the country is very small. Not more than two or three villages occurred to my notice during the whole route.

Making a circuit round the northern extremity of Olitzka, I stopped for the night at Dramasus; a village situate on the eastern front of the mountain, and at a great height above the plain, which lies at its feet. My Albanians conducted me to a guard-house, inhabited by 20 or 30 soldiers; and to avoid the trouble of seeking a house in the village, I decided on passing the night here. It was, however, a dismal and wretched place; the room in which I

slept had no windows, but six or eight large holes in the wall; as many in the roofing, and twice the number in the floor. The soldiers kindled for me a large fire, and a Greek priest brought wine and provisions from the village; but nevertheless I passed the night with much discomfort from the excessive cold. A northerly wind, and our vicinity to the snows of Olitzka, brought the thermometer as low as 28°; and the next morning much ice lay upon the ground.

Ioannina is distant twelve miles from Dramasus. On my way thither, I made a short circuit towards the south, to visit the remains of an ancient city, in the valley which lies on the eastern side of Olitzka. These ruins are unquestionably more interesting than any other in Epirus, and would be remarkable in any part of Greece, for the magnificent theatre which appears among them; and which in size, as well as in beauty of structure, is perhaps not equalled by any other similar edifice in this *country. The architecture is of the ancient Greek kind; the stones employed in the building are of a large size, and worked with extreme accuracy. When on the spot, I took the different dimensions of the theatre with some care; but these measurements were afterwards lost, together with my other papers; a circumstance which the previous researches of Major Leake in the same place, not then known to

* I have not seen the great theatre at Epidaurus in the Argolis; but from all that I can learn, that among the ruins below Olitzka is still more considerable in its remains.

me, will probably leave little room to regret. If I rightly recollect, it appeared from the estimate I made, that the theatre might contain about 12,000 spectators. The number of seats is 56; giving a great elevation to the building, and a proportional extent to the proscenium, orchestra, and other parts of it.

At a short distance from the theatre are the remains of a small temple. The lower portions of 14 columns are still to be seen, forming two rows, about 16 feet asunder; and near to them two other columns, which from their situation may possibly have belonged to a propyleum. These columns are formed of a coarse limestone conglomerate, the fragments in which are all angular, and so attached, as scarcely to admit of a plain surface. The remains of some fluted Doric columns appear among the other ruins of this edifice, composed of a fine calcareous conglomerate, of a greyish white colour. These fragments are now scattered upon the ground, and their original situation is not very distinct. A stone, containing part of a groupe in bas-relief, occurred to my notice; but so much defaced, that the only portion distinguishable was a male figure, of Herculean make, struggling with a serpent.

The remains of the walls of the city are extensive, including the area of a gently rising ground within the valley. At no great distance from the temple, there is a curious subterranean vault, quadrilateral in form, and supported entirely by pillars.

Some of the stones here might almost rival those in the treasury at Mycenæ.

These ruins have hitherto been almost unknown to the antiquarian; and notwithstanding their magnitude, it is not yet well ascertained what ancient city they represent. Some of the literary Greeks of Ioannina speak of them as the ruins of Cassiope; and give to the ridge of Olitzka the name of the Cassiopeian mountains; but I am not aware that this opinion has any certain authority, and it may be doubted whether the city of Cassiope was so far inland as this spot. I do not know of any inscription found here, or any coin which may explain the history of the place. I have not, in any other part of Epirus, seen the remains of a Greek theatre; and it is certainly singular, that a city large enough to give such a monument to posterity, should not more distinctly be noticed by ancient writers.

A low chain of hills divides this valley from the plains of Ioannina. The view from the summit, which includes these plains, the lake, and the height of the Pindus chain in the distance, is wonderfully imposing. I have formerly noticed the very striking entrance into Ioannina from the road of Paramithia. It is perhaps the most remarkable of the approaches to the city, from the suddenness with which the fine scenery of the lake, Seraglio, and mosques is brought before the eye.

On my arrival at Ioannina, I found that the

Vizier had reached this city two days before. I sent a soldier to the Seraglio to mention my arrival, who soon after returned with one of the Greek attendants of the palace, commissioned to conduct me to my lodging. The house appointed for me belonged to Demetrius Athanasius; formerly mentioned as one of the most respectable of the Ioannina merchants. It was inhabited by a relative of the family, the lady of a merchant named Poulizo, now resident at Belgrade, who lived here with her mother-in-law, and a retinue of several domestics. A large apartment, well furnished in the Greek manner, was appropriated to my use, and every attention paid to my comfort both by the family of my hostess, and by that of Demetrius. The season of the long Greek fast, of 48 days preceding Easter, had just commenced; and during this early part of it, even fish or milk in any shape, are prohibited by the rites of the church. A separate table, however, was provided for me, and well furnished with dishes of the kind formerly described at a Greek dinner.

Soon after my arrival, I went to visit the family of my old host, Michael Metzou, by whom I was received with a cordiality of kindness that was extremely gratifying. Many of my former friends, Psalida, Sakallarius, Lucas, Mela, and others, called upon me at my lodging; and I received visits also from Koletti, the physician of Mouctar Pasha, and Chipriasli, one of the physicians of the city, whom I had not seen, when formerly here. Another of

those who called upon me was a Neapolitan physician, lately come to Ioannina, who entitled me *caro amico* before he had been ten minutes in the room, talked with infinite fluency for half an hour, and quitted me with a profusion of gestures and salutations. This poor man, driven from Naples by the revolutions there, came to Ioannina, with the desire to obtain a place as one of the physicians of Ali Pasha. This the Vizier would not consent to give him; and he was now subsisting in a miserable and precarious manner, till he might find the means of removal elsewhere.

I paid my respects to the family of my host Demetrius the morning after my arrival. His house, next to that of Logotheti of Livadia, is the best I have seen in Greece, inhabited by a private individual; the apartments large, and the decorations executed with more taste than is usual in this country. His family was an excellent example of the style and habits of life among the Greeks of the higher class. The dress of his wife and daughters was distinguished by extreme richness, and a profusion of those artificial ornaments which appertain to the toilette of a Grecian female. Two of the daughters are already married, but the husband of one of them had been absent many years in Wallachia, and the other son-in-law was about to set out for the north of Turkey, on a commercial speculation. The policy of Ali Pasha to prevent emigration, besides rendering it very difficult for any one to obtain the licence of quitting his

dominions, provides a further check, by invariably retaining the wives and families of those who are permitted for a time to quit the country.

Mouctar Pasha, the eldest son of the Vizier, whom I had not yet seen, was at this time in Ioannina. He sent his physician Koletti to say that he wished to know me, and appointed an hour for my visit to his Seraglio. At the time I arrived there with the physician, he was in his Haram, and we remained some time in an outer apartment, witnessing the violent gesticulations of two Dervishes; who were quarrelling, as I was told, about their respective powers, and the influence of their prayers with heaven. The scene was a ridiculous but disgusting one. The quarrel, fomented by some of the attendants of the Seraglio, proceeded almost to blows. There was something which approached to idiotcy in the gestures and menaces of the two Dervishes, who shouted loudly, threw open their long robes, and showed much wildness in their whole demeanour.

I was already wearied of this spectacle, when summoned to the apartment of Mouctar Pasha. It was a room which though not so large as many in the Seraglio of the Vizier, yet was furnished with greater taste and correctness of decoration. Mouctar received me in a friendly manner, though not with the same grace which characterizes his brother Veli Pasha. He began the conversation by paying me some compliments on my medical services to his father, of which he said he had

been informed while at Berat. He then inquired respecting my journies in Greece, and particularly in Albania. Speaking to him of Suli, he gave me some curious information as to the part he himself bore in this warfare, from the exposure and fatigues of which, he said that his health had sustained a permanent injury. He spoke also of the battle with the French near Prevesa, and of the campaigns against the Russians on the Danube, in which he had been present. An allusion I made to some decorations on the ceiling of the apartment, representing the sun and planets, introduced the subject of astronomy, on which he asked several questions, showing more curiosity than knowledge. This is a topic to which the Turks in general are a good deal attached, connecting it for the most part with some vague notions of astrology, which are satisfactory to their ignorance of better science. These questions were followed by others on medical subjects; partly respecting his own state of health, in part of a more general nature. I was amused by some which he asked as to the seat of life, and by the arguments he made use of to vindicate his own idea, that animal life resided solely in the blood. His conversation on this point was not without some degree of ingenuity.

While we were yet talking, one of the Dervishes came in from the outer apartment; seated himself, without being invited, on a couch near the fire; took off his cap so as to expose his bald head, and after many ridiculous gestures, told the Pasha of

the quarrel he had had with the other Dervish. Mouctar laughed vociferously at the narrative; but returning to his conversation with me, the man soon afterwards, without any token of obeisance, retired again from the apartment.

Mouctar Pasha is now somewhat more than forty, unlike his father or brother in features, and with a countenance less impressive than that of either. There is a general expression of grossness about it, not unmixed with good-humour; in his manners an entire want of refinement, but without harshness. In person, he is large, masculine, and strong. He is less a politician than Veli Pasha, nor has he succeeded in attaining the same rank; but he is esteemed a more intrepid warrior, and possibly may be more popular among the Albanians, who form the chief support to the power of the family. His principal amusements are those of the chace, in pursuing which he is generally attended by a superb retinue of men and horses. I have seen him also display great activity in the Turkish equestrian game of the *Djeridi*, which I had the opportunity of witnessing on a large scale during my last residence at Ioannina.*

* The spectacle of the Djeridi is an interesting one. A number of Cavaliers, on their fleetest horses, meet in rapid conflict on a plain, hurl at each other their long javelins, made of the wood of the willow tree; swiftly recede again, or turn aside to avoid the blow of the lance; and with every variety of singular and dexterous motion, display all that seems possible in horsemanship. I have seen an assemblage of forty or fifty horsemen occupied on the same spot in this game, in which the distinction of ranks appears in great measure to be laid aside.

From the Seraglio of Mouctar Pasha, I was summoned by a black slave to that of the Vizier, whom I found not occupied in listening to Dervishes, but intently engaged on the affairs of his government; three secretaries sitting on the ground before him, who were reading aloud different papers of accounts, and receiving his instructions upon them. On my arrival, he suspended his business for a short time to talk with me about my journey, but soon afterwards took it up again, begging me to remain till it was finished. To this I willingly acceded, as at no time were the strong character and judgment of Ali Pasha seen to such advantage, as when thus occupied. For a few minutes this evening his passion was a good deal excited, by the detection of some irregularity in the accounts laid before him. Something like an answer was attempted by one of the Greek secretaries, but he was repulsed by a look which he could not oppose, and the words τατο ορίζω, "*this I command*," imperatively pronounced, put an instant stop to all discussion.

I remained with the Vizier more than an hour this evening. Psalida was present, and served as the interpreter of all that I did not understand in the Romaic language. The Vizier inquired very minutely about my journey; what object had most interested me? how I had been treated? whether I had found minerals of any value? what ruins I had examined? &c. I told him of the rumour of concealed treasures at Palaia-Venetia, and ridiculed

this belief. He said he had heard the same accounts, and gave no credit to them; but in saying this, he looked at me with a sort of credulous earnestness, as if he were half suspicious that I might have found something on the spot. I mentioned to him the possibility of securing the upper fortress of Suli against the lightning, which had twice struck it, by the use of iron conductors. I found that this fact was not new to him; but he has probably reasoned well in considering Suli as sufficiently guarded, in what has already been done there. The remainder of our conversation was of a more general nature; regarding the extent and population of different countries, and the state of European politics; subjects to which he always shewed himself much attached, and which at this moment more especially engaged his attention, from the important events following the French campaign in Russia. His information as to these events was very recent, and derived from the most accurate sources.

The Vizier shewed the same desire as heretofore to detain me some time longer in Albania; and, partly perhaps with this view, proposed to me a journey through that part of his territory to the north of Ioannina. To this plan I not unwillingly acceded; finding myself already thus far advanced from the coast; and being aware, from report, of various objects which were likely to interest me in this part of the country. My inclinations were further determined by the comfort, as

well as advantage, of travelling under the direct protection of Ali Pasha; a circumstance of which I was now sufficiently aware by the comparison of my different journies in Greece. The Vizier, as at Prevesa, shewed himself interested in the details of my plan; and at a succeeding visit I made to the Seraglio, pointed out on paper, though not with great exactness, the relative situation of Argyro-Kastro, Gardiki, Tepeleni, and other places I was about to visit; and noticed the position of several ruined cities, particularly of one at Gradista, to the north of Tepeleni, which had not before been examined. I was amused by the description he gave me at this time of the character of different tribes of his Albanian subjects. A principal criterion of merit, of course, was their bravery and attachment to his service; but he shewed beyond this an acute observation in various points of character, which are not so easily obvious in their effects.

CHAP. XXIII.

DEPARTURE FROM IOANNINA FOR THE NORTH OF ALBANIA. —ZITZA. — FALLS OF GLISSANI. — MONASTERY OF SOSINO. —LAKE OF TZEROVINA. — DELVINAKI. — GREAT VALLEY OF THE DEROPULI. — LIBOCHOVO. — ARGYRO-KASTRO. — GARDIKI. — MASSACRE OF THE GARDIKIOTES. — ROUTE TO TEPELENI. — RIVER VIOSA. — TEPELENI. — YUSUF AGA. — DINNER FROM THE HARAM.

I SET out from Ioannina on the 12th of March, on my journey towards the north of Albania. Four guards were appointed to attend me on this expedition, two of them Mussulmans, the other two Christians, — a difference which is of comparatively small moment in Albania, where the natives at large are by no means rigid in the tenets of their religion. One of the Christian Albanians with me was a fine young man of the name of Constantine, who having lately married in his native village near Argyro-Kastro, was in high spirits at the opportunity this journey afforded him of visiting his bride.

The *buyrouldi*, or passport, which the Vizier gave me for the journey, was couched in much stronger terms than that I had formerly carried into Thessaly; a circumstance in some measure needful in certain parts of the country I was about to visit. Expressed in the words of commaud from himself,

it began by calling me his αχριβος και αγαπητος φιλος; directed that I should every-where be received as if he were present in person; that I should be supplied with horses wherever I required them; and that every house should be open to me. It concluded by the singular threat, "if you do not all this, the snake will eat you;" a denunciation well understood by all who live within the dominion of Ali Pasha.

My first day's journey was only to Zitza, a village twelve miles north-north-west from Ioannina. In leaving the city, I stopped a short time at the gardens of the pavilion, to pay my respects to the Vizier, who was spending the day at this place. The only remarkable object on the route to Zitza is the lake of Lapshista; a shallow piece of water, which derives a fine character, however, from the precipitous front of the mountain of Metzoukel, forming its eastern boundary. A stream flows into this lake from that of Ioannina, but after making its exit again on the western side, almost immediately disappears in a chasm among the limestone rocks. It comes out again at some distance to join the river Kalama.

The village of Zitza stands on the edge of a steep declivity, overlooking the deep valley of this river, which is seen here at the distance of nearly 30 miles above the place where I had crossed it on my way to Sullopia. The views from Zitza along this valley, and its great mountain-boundaries, have a wild and irregular magnificence, which forms in some degree

a peculiar feature of the spot. Lord Byron, who visited the place, has celebrated its scenery in the stanzas of his Childe Harold; and it certainly merits applause, though greatly inferior to many other points of landscape that I have seen in Albania. The village contains only about 120 houses, and a Greek monastery. My passport obtained a lodging for me in the house of the Codja Bashee of the place, who was extremely anxious that I should report his good services to the Vizier.

From Zitza my course lay along the valley of the Kalama, which from this point extends about fifteen miles, in a direction nearly north and south. In quitting Zitza to descend into the valley, I had a splendid view towards the north-east, of the mountains of Zagora, formerly described as a part of the Pindus chain; the elevated but flattened summits of which, now deeply covered with snow, strongly reminded me of some of the great mountains, called Jokulls, in Iceland. The first remarkable object in the valley of the Kalama was the waterfall of Glissani, four miles from Zitza, where the river is precipitated over a face of rock 60 or 70 feet in height. This fall is singular from the circumstance that the Kalama, which may here be about as large as the Clyde at Corra-Linn, flows in a placid stream to the very edge of the precipice, down which it falls in a perfectly unbroken sheet of water. The scenery around the cascade is not at all striking, the river flowing here through the subordinate ridges of hill, which traverse the great valley in different direc-

tions. These hills are all composed of *debris* from the surrounding chains of mountains, and are of comparatively recent formation. At a short distance above the fall of Glissani, are several smaller cascades, formed by different streams into which the river divides itself, in passing through thickets of willows and other shrubs.

I am not aware that the valley of the Kalama has been examined between this spot, and the place where I crossed it near Paramithia. Much noble mountain-scenery would doubtless be found in the interval, as I judge from the distant views I obtained of the country.

Crossing to the western bank of the river, I continued my route up the valley to the Monastery of Sosino, six miles above Glissani. This monastery stands on the summit of an insulated conical hill, which rises probably more than 500 feet above the valley beneath. Learning that there were some ruins here, I determined to ascend the hill, sending forward two of my guards with the baggage-horses. A winding path conducted us to the summit, where, after some hesitation from their alarm, I was kindly received by four or five old monks, the sole inhabitants of the place. I examined the church and interior of the monastery, but found nothing of importance. An inscription near the window of the altar might possibly have explained the date of the building, but time had rendered it illegible. Without the walls of the monastery, and appearing to have included the summit of the hill,

I found the remains of Cyclopian walls, which were doubtless those of a fortress, as the space is not sufficient for any more considerable extent of building. I could discover no inscription, nor did the monks know that any other vestige of antiquity existed on the spot. The view from the monastery shewed me the upper part of the valley of the Kalama, spreading out into a wide plain, fertile, populous, and well cultivated. This plain stretches eastwards to the skirts of the mountains of Zagora. To the north it gradually rises in successive ranges of hill, which are terminated by the great mountain of Nemertzka, covering a wide extent of surface, and forming one of the most elevated summits in this part of Albania.

Having partaken in a repast of rice, honey, and eggs, which the inhabitants of this solitary spot provided for me, I descended from the monastery of Sosino. A mile or two beyond this place, I again left the road, to examine some powder-mills; the only manufactory of the kind, I believe, in Albania. The nitre and sulphur are brought here by land-carriage; the charcoal is prepared on the spot. The machinery of the mills is very indifferently constructed, and the powder manufactured of extremely coarse kind.

The Kalama is chiefly formed from two streams, one descending from the side of Zagora, the other coming from the Lake of Tzerovina. I followed the course of the latter; ascending its valley, which passes off in a N. W. direction from that along which

we had been travelling. On the ascent of the hills, where the valley turns off in this direction, stands the town of Mosiari, pleasantly situated and surrounded by wood. Close to the town is a small Seraglio, which forms occasionally a resting place to the Vizier in his northern journies. At some distance beyond this place, we arrived at the Lake of Tzerovina, a nearly circular pool of water, apparently not more than four miles in circumference, but deriving a romantic character from the mountains which surround it, or appear in the distant landscape. The village of Tzerovina is situated on an eminence at its lower extremity. This lake is of very great depth; and vulgar report says, as is frequent in such cases, that there is no bottom. M. Pouquèville stated to me his belief, from the form and depth of the lake, that it must have been anciently a volcanic crater; but I see no sufficient reason for supposing this, as the surrounding hills are all either calcareous, or consisting of loose decomposed materials. The chief circumstance countenancing the opinion is, that a small quantity of sulphur has been found in one of the glens, descending to the south side of the lake. With some difficulty I made my way to this spot, which was discovered, it is said, by a flame or smoke seen by some shepherds to issue from the ground. The observation of small portions of sulphur on the surface, led to an order from the Vizier that excavations should be made here. The result, however, was fruitless. The sulphur was only found en-

crusting some stones superficially, and on going deeper, nothing was discovered to reward the search. At the time I visited the place, the sulphureous vapours had entirely disappeared, and I found little more than stones decomposed by these vapours, and others covered with a thin film of sulphur. I shall have occasion hereafter to notice more considerable appearances of the same kind.

From the lake of Tzerovina, I continued my route some miles further, between high chains of hills; and then turning to the right, up a narrow and precipitous valley, arrived at the town of Delvinaki, consisting of three or four groupes of houses, singularly situated in a deep recess, where several narrow glens meet together. The town contains nearly 3000 people. The houses, in general, appear neat and comfortable; and this, although the place has latterly been subject to more than ordinary oppression from the Vizier; who, if the account I received be correct, demands annually 140,000 piastres, or about 7000*l.* from the inhabitants. These being for the most part farmers or peasants, are unable to pay more than a part of this nominal sum; but to increase the burden upon them in another way, a larger proportion than usual of Albanian soldiers are introduced into the town, and quartered upon the people. A respectable Greek inhabitant, whom I saw here, assured me that this alone imposed upon the place an annual tax to the amount of 80,000 piastres. The severity of the Vizier towards Delvinaki, has its

origin, as far as I could learn, in his wish to obtain the proprietorship of the town, which has hitherto been refused by the inhabitants, partly perhaps from the inadequacy of the sum offered for its purchase. While on the one hand this bears the marks of unwarranted oppression, on the other it shews a somewhat more regulated despotism than might be expected from other acts of the man.

Delvinaki has been considered, by some writers, as the ancient Omphalium, one of the cities of Chaonia; but I could not observe any remains of antiquity upon the spot; and though the surmise is a possible one, I am not aware of any circumstances which are sufficient to attest it. There is reason to believe, from the description of Livy, that the place called the *Castra Pyrrhi* was in this vicinity, where Philip, King of Macedon, defeated by T. Q. Flaminius on the banks of the Aous or Viosa, halted the first night of his march towards Mount Lingon. The boundary of the modern Albania, as defined by population and language, is considered to pass through the vicinity of Delvinaki, extending afterwards to the south, to include the district of Suli. The women of this town and the adjacent country are celebrated for their beauty; a circumstance which had struck me in the peasants I met on the road, before I heard the remark from others. Their dress is simple: the red Albanian cap on the head, generally decorated with coins; their hair flowing loosely from beneath; a woollen vest variously coloured; and a petticoat reaching little be-

low the knees, with stockings curiously worked in thread of different colours.

My route from Delvinaki was to the city of Argyro-Kastro; from this place a journey of seven or eight hours; and distant from Ioannina about fifty miles. We descended again to the direct road, which we had quitted in coming to the town, along a deep chasm, through which a stream runs to join another coming from Nemertzka; the two united flowing, a few miles below, into the river of Argyro-Kastro. Five miles from Delvinaki we came to the Khan of Xerovaltos, so named from an extensive tract of marshy land adjoining, which has lately been drained by the orders of the Vizier, and brought into a state of rich and profitable cultivation. This was the first specimen of agricultural improvement, on a large scale, I had seen in Albania. From the basin-like form of the marsh, and the height of the surrounding hills, it may be conjectured, perhaps, that it was formerly a lake; the waters of which were carried off through some newly-formed channel.

Ascending a low ridge beyond this place, we came at once in sight of the great plains or vale of Deropuli, stretched out beneath us, and forming a landscape of the most magnificent kind. Of this vale I had a distant view the evening before in approaching Delvinaki; but the pass of Xerovaltos forms the principal access to it from the south. It gradually extended itself before us, as we continued our route to the village of Palaia-Episcopi, situate

on the declivity of the mountains which form its eastern boundary, at the distance of a mile from the opening of the Pass. At this place I stopped some time to examine an old Greek church, deriving a very picturesque character from the wood surrounding it. An inscription which I found on the wall purported, if I rightly recollect, that the church was founded by Manuel Comnenus. A poor Greek priest, whom I found on the spot, told me that it had been built many thousand years ago. I reminded him of the date of the Christian religion, to which of course he had nothing to say in reply.

The view from this point, of the vale of Deropuli, is amongst the finest I have seen in Greece. In the whole landscape there is an openness and magnificence, and a simplicity at the same time in its features, which is in some measure characteristic of Grecian scenery. The vale has an uninterrupted rectilinear extent of nearly thirty miles, from S. S. E. to N. N. W., with a breadth varying from three to six miles. For the whole of this length its boundaries are formed by two vast mountain-ridges, parallel and singularly uniform in their outline; and, in many places, as I should conceive, not less than 4000 feet in height. The effect of elevation, however, is greatly increased by the abruptness of their declivity, and by the perfect and unbroken level of the valley, even to the very base of the hills. In the eastern ridge particularly, the higher part of the mountain is almost perpendicular to a

great depth, with a steep and uninterrupted descent afterwards to the level of the plain. Of the chain forming the western barrier, the highest points are to the south, where they are extremely lofty and rugged, and connect themselves with the mountains which follow the course of the Kalama. Carrying the eye northwards along this western chain, two passes are seen through it; one of which forms the road to Delvino, Butrinto, and other places near the coast of Albania. Still further to the north, the same mountains assume a very singular outline, exhibiting a continuous declivity of almost bare rock, from their summit very nearly to the level of the vale; this declivity intersected by many deep gullies; and the intervening ridges terminating by bluff faces. The appearance is similar, on a larger scale, to that of the ridge on the corresponding side of the vale of Paramithia; while the chain of mountains on the opposite side greatly resembles that between Paramithia and Aia-Glyky. Whether this coincidence, which extends also to the direction of the two vales, and the mineralogical character of the hills, be owing to one and the same physical agency, I will not pretend to determine, but it seems very probable.

The whole country between Ioannina and Argyro-Kastro is calcareous, and containing a great quantity of flint, generally in the form of layers. In many places the limestone is remarkably slaty in structure; and there is the appearance of much silex in its composition. The stratification of the

rock is very distinct in the abrupt terminations of the western ridge, which bounds the vale just described.

The common name of this valley-district is Deropuli; and the same name is given to the river flowing through it, which sometimes, also, is called the river of Argyro-Kastro, from the situation of this city near its banks.* Its ancient name, until it joins the Viosa near Tepeleni, is not well ascertained. It has been called the Celydnus; but there is more reason to suppose that this river had its course through the country further to the west and north.

The vale of Deropuli, or Argyro-Kastro, is luxuriantly fertile in every part of its extent; and the industry of a numerous population has been exerted in bringing it to a high state of culture. The tillage here, generally speaking, is remarkable for its neatness. The products are chiefly corn, maize, tobacco, and rice. The quantity of grain produced is very large, and much of it is carried down to the coast for export. The tobacco of this district is in great repute, and generally esteemed the best in Albania. Besides the produce of the plains, the large flocks of sheep, which feed upon the declivity of the mountains, form an important article of property, and afford much wool for the coarse manufactures of the country.

This great vale is perhaps the most populous dis-

* The Greeks call a particular place on the western side of the vale by the name of Drinopolis.

trict in Albania. The inhabitants are collected into numerous towns and villages, which are situated on the lower declivity of the mountains on each side; or on the western side, generally at the opening of the deep glens which descend to the plain. I counted, and obtained the names of nearly thirty of these towns or villages; the most considerable of which, after Argyro-Kastro, is that of Libochovo, containing about 1500 houses: several others contain as many as 500 or 600. Including Argyro-Kastro, it would probably not be too much to estimate the population of this valley at nearly 100,000 souls. The situation of many of the towns is very fine; especially on the eastern side, where the declivity of the hills is covered with wood, and richly cultivated. The Albanians, inhabiting these hills, are generally known among their countrymen, by the name of Liutzides, as one of their distinctions of tribe. The proprietors of the land in the vale reside chiefly in the larger of the towns bordering upon it. The tenure, on which the land is let, is one very common in this country; the tenant paying to the landlord half the produce of the ground, or its equivalent in value.

My route lay northwards along the vale to Argyro-Kastro; and on the western side of the river. A striking object on the opposite side is a great break in the mountains, (the only one in an extent of 20 miles;) through which a large stream flows to join the Deropuli. Through this break, which

is bounded on each side by immense cliffs, formed by the section of the ridge, is seen the western front of the great mountains of Nemertzka, presenting at this time to the eye an unbroken surface of snow. The town of Libochovo stands on the ascent of the mountains, at the entrance of this break. It covers a great extent of surface; and, like Paramithia, with so much difference of level, that the upper parts of the town are probably 500 feet above the lower. The houses, which are many of them large, are surrounded in general by orange, olive, or pomegranate trees, so as to give to the place a very pleasing aspect. There is a large Seraglio here, inhabited by the only surviving sister of Ali Pasha. It is in an elevated position, and environed by lofty walls.

Opposite Libochovo, and a little to the right of the road along the western side of the valley, I found the ruins of a small theatre; probably a Roman edifice, being built in great part of Roman brick, and with cement. The measurement I made of its dimensions was lost with my other papers; but the building in its best state, must have been small, and of moderate architecture. I sought for inscriptions, or something which might explain its name or history, but could discover nothing. That it was a theatre is perfectly distinct from the ruins; though the situation, on the dead level of a plain, is not an usual one for such edifices, and there are no remains, as far as I know, of any ancient town in the vicinity. I was surprised to find

that no one at Ioannina seemed to be aware of the existence of this ruin.

I arrived at Argyro-Kastro in the afternoon. This city, one of the largest and most important in Albania, is very singularly placed on the declivity of the mountains, on the western side of the valley; at a place where several deep ravines approach each other. The town consists of several distinct portions; groupes of houses standing on separate eminences, or covering the summits of the narrow ridges which divide the ravines. The number of habitations altogether, is estimated at 4000; which gives a population of about 20,000 souls. Almost the whole of this population is composed of Turks or Albanians professing the Mahometan religion; and it is said that there are not more than 140 Greek families in the city.

The situation of Argyro-Kastro, on a surface so extremely unequal, gives an air of magnificence to the place; which effect is increased by the size of some of the principal Turkish houses of the city. Upon the central ridge of the three, on which the greater part of the town is situated, stands the new castle; which, when completed, will be a building of great extent, and very strong in reference to Turkish warfare. When Ali Pasha obtained possession of Argyro-Kastro, in the early part of 1812, he commenced this work, on the site of the old castle; and has carried it on since that period with extreme rapidity; nearly 2000 labourers being constantly occupied on the spot. This is a favourite

object with him; and before I quitted Ioannina, he repeatedly desired me to pay attention to it, and to suggest any thing which I thought might improve the work. Within the castle, he is erecting also a new Seraglio on a large scale; and it is probable that, hereafter, he will every year spend some time at this place.

The conquest of Argyro-Kastro, and its annexed territory, I formerly mentioned as being of much importance to the interests of Ali Pasha. His war with Ibrahim Pasha delayed this event till the winter of 1811-12; when, without much blood-shed, he obtained possession both of this district, and of the Pashalik of Delvino to the west; thereby rendering his dominions more compact; obtaining a considerable extent of sea-coast; several large and populous towns; and a great increase of revenue. Previously to his attack upon Argyro-Kastro, he had contrived, under various pretences, to inveigle away the bravest and most warlike of the inhabitants; in consequence of which, the city surrendered after a short and inefficient contest. The Bey of the place was taken as a prisoner to Ioannina; where, I was told, that he still remained in captivity, as well as his neighbour Mustapha Pasha of Delvino. Not only the political power, but all the property of the city, was surrendered to Ali Pasha; on which account, the immediate taxes, levied upon the place, are by no means so great as upon many other cities in his dominions. The acquisition of this territory has

naturally afforded him much gratification, and he repeatedly spoke to me of it in a manner which strikingly evinced this. His youngest and favourite son, Sali Bey, has been sent to reside in Argyro-Kastro; nominally as the governor, though not more than eleven years of age. This has probably been done with the view of accustoming him to the usages of the Albanians, whom he may hereafter command, and also to preserve him from the greater effeminacy of an Ioannina life.

On my arrival at Argyro-Kastro, I went directly to the castle, and waited upon Hassan Aga the commandant of the place, and governor of Sali Bey. He is a native of Tepeleni; an elderly man, but of masculine and striking appearance. In his apartment I found four or five of the principal Turks of the city, habited with great richness; one of whom seemed to be a person placed here to attend and direct the education of Sali Bey. The approaches to the apartment were crowded with Albanian soldiers. I had particular letters from the Vizier to Hassan Aga, who received me with much attention; appointed me a lodging with one of the first Greek families of the place; and in the course of the evening sent me by his attendants, a present of two sheep, two loaves of sugar, and a large bag of coffee.

From his apartment I went to visit Sali Bey, who had expressed a desire to see me. I found him in a room neither large nor splendid; a part, perhaps, of the policy of his education. He was surrounded

by a groupe of Albanians, remarkable from their size and rugged masculine aspect; most of them standing bare-footed before their young master, but otherwise richly dressed and armed. The youth had risen before I entered the apartment, to receive me standing. Having exchanged salutations, we sat down, and he then received the reverences of my guards, who, advancing in succession from the other end of the room, bowed themselves twice forwards before they reached his couch, touching the ground each time with their hands; then, when they came up to him, put one knee to the floor, and kissing his robe, raised his hand and touched their foreheads with it. It was amusing to see the air of juvenile majesty, with which the young Bey received their obeisances; as if long accustomed to command. He was habited in a purple pelisse; on his head the red Albanian cap; in his belt a dagger and pistols, adapted to his size, and richly ornamented. His countenance was animated and intelligent, somewhat resembling that of his father, particularly in the forehead. His manner too, was much more formed than is usual at this age; an air of manliness and independence about it, without any childish intrusiveness. He asked, soon after I came in, several pertinent questions respecting England; its distance from Albania, and my travels in the latter country. He then allowed the conversation to be taken up by his Turkish governor, continuing to listen attentively to all that was said. This Turk, who was a man of some

intelligence, renewed the subject of England; and asked various questions respecting the number and population of our cities; the size of London, &c.; generally following my answers by some comparison with similar objects in Turkey; more fairly made, however, than is usual with the people of this country. During the conversation, coffee and pipes were brought round by the attendants, to all except Sali Bey, who had not yet taken up the luxury of the Turkish pipe.

The education of this young boy, if he lives to have command in Albania, is probably well adapted to his future life. At Argyro-Kastro, besides hardening himself by manly exercises, he is acquiring knowledge of the Romaic, Turkish, and Albanian, the three languages spoken by his father's subjects. His mother resides in the Seraglio at Tepeleni, twenty miles from Argyro-Kastro. I was informed that she was rarely allowed to receive visits from her son, from the fear that she might weaken him by ill-timed indulgences. The destination which the Vizier gives to Sali Bey in the future government of Albania, I have no means of knowing; and the future fortune of the latter will probably depend in great measure on the length of his father's life, and on the situation of his half-brothers, Mouctar and Veli Pasha, at the time of Ali's decease.

From the castle I descended to the lodging appointed for me, along streets so steep, that it was necessary to dismount from horseback to proceed

with safety. This is the case throughout a great part of the city, so singular is its situation among ridges and acclivities. My Greek host and his family received me with a multitude of attentions; and in the course of the evening several other Greeks of the city came in to visit me. These people have a courteous and agreeable manner towards strangers, which I have scarcely seen equalled elsewhere. A quickness of comprehension belongs to the Greek, which enables him speedily to see, and adapt himself to varieties of character; a trait which is doubtless in great part, though not wholly, derived from their long and severe political subjection. It is by his quickness and facility in these points that he is able to meet and counteract his Turkish oppressors, and to acquire an influence over them, which even affects many of the public concerns of the Turkish empire.

My host spoke much to me of the improvement in the situation of the Greeks of Argyro-Kastro, since the possession of the place by Ali Pasha, owing to the suppression of the inordinate power of the Turks in the city. This might possibly be very true, — but there was some reason to believe the statement an interested one, as it was accompanied with a solicitation from my host that I would speak in his favour to the Vizier.

In consequence of Ali Pasha's desire, I visited with some attention the different parts of the new works at the castle. The hill, on which these stand, approaches at the summit to a very narrow ridge,

so as to render the included area of the castle very long and narrow. The walls of the new edifice were now completed in the greater part of their extent, though scarcely nine months had elapsed since the buildings were begun. They are of great thickness, but like most of the undertakings of the Vizier of similar kind, have been executed too rapidly, as appears in various parts of the work. His temper is one that does not endure long delay, and the bidding and execution are required to go nearly together. Though the position of the castle is on high and steep ground, it appears to be commanded by some of the neighbouring heights, on which parts of the town are situated. I mentioned this to Ali Pasha on my return to Ioannina; but it was not easy to make him understand all the effects of European artillery in the conduct of a siege. Several of the guns which I saw lying within the fortress, ready to be mounted, were of English manufacture.

Of the new Seraglio which the Vizier is building here, the Haram is the only part in an advanced state, but this too has been executed with a very unreasonable rapidity, — even the painting of some of the apartments being already completed. It is in the usual style of Turkish palaces, and might have been handsome, but for the trifling gaudiness of the interior decorations, which are utterly inconsistent with good taste, and in general executed in a careless manner.

On the 15th, after making another visit to the Commandant, Hassan Aga, I continued my jour-

ney. The direct route from Argyro-Kastro to Tepeleni would have been down the valley of the Deropuli, which, a few miles to the north of the former city, loses its character of a broad and luxuriant plain, and is suddenly contracted by the approach of the mountains towards each other. By the direction of the Vizier, however, I took a circuitous route to Gardiki, the unfortunate city which he destroyed in the spring of 1812, and which I should scarcely have thought of visiting, had he not himself admitted this as a point in my journey. When giving the reader a sketch of the life of Ali Pasha, I briefly alluded to this melancholy event, and to the cause which produced it at so very distant a period of time. * As it forms, however, the latest circumstance in the history of Ali, and one that strongly illustrates his character, I shall give the narrative more in detail, as I received it from persons who were eye-witnesses to many parts of the event.

Gardiki was a large city, about ten miles to the west or north-west of Argyro-Kastro; with a population of Turks and Albanians, who had much property in the surrounding country, and were extremely independent and warlike in their habits. In the early part of Ali Pasha's life, when his chief support was the zeal and resolution of his mother, the Gardikiotes became his enemies, and endeavoured to dispossess him of his small territory. On a certain occasion, when, with his mother

* See Vol. i. p. 280.

and sister, he was passing the night at some village in this part of the country, they laid a plot for surprising him and taking away his life. Ali with difficulty escaped, but his mother and sister were made prisoners, and conducted to Gardiki; where, after being exposed for thirty days to various outrages, particularly offensive to the usage of the Turks with respect to women, they were ignominiously sent away. This event never left the recollection of the family. His mother, it is said, did not cease, as long as she lived, to urge him to accomplish some work of revenge; and the influence she had over his mind was aided by his own temper, and by the opposition the Gardikiotes continued to offer to his growing power.

The situation however of Gardiki, and the protection afforded to this city by the Pashas of Berat and Delvino, made it impracticable for Ali to execute his designs till the beginning of 1812, when the subjugation of Argyro-Kastro, Delvino, &c. enabled him to surround Gardiki with his troops, and thus to prevent the escape of the inhabitants. It is not impossible that he might have taken the place before, but in this case many of them would have escaped, and he would have been foiled in his full work of vengeance. Previously to his attack, he had contrived, by delusive means, to retain almost all the Gardikiotes within the city, with the expectation that they should not suffer more than the other conquered territory. His troops, to the number, it is said, of about 15,000,

having surrounded the place, orders were given to attack it. The Turkish officers of his army, — either in consequence of the vigorous defence of the people, or because they were unwilling to take a city, in the safety of which the Porte had directly interested itself, and where the inhabitants, though Mussulmans, were likely to be eventually sacrificed, — delayed their operations, and made little progress in the siege. The Vizier, it appears, had begun to be irritated by this tardiness, when Athanasius Bia came forward, and offered with a certain number of Albanians, to take the place by storm; though its position on the acclivity of a conical hill, rendered this an enterprize of much difficulty. His offer was accepted, and a single night put Gardiki into the Vizier's hands, after an interval of more than 40 years from the commission of the original offence.

The inhabitants, who might be 5000 or 6000 in number, were at first distributed into different places in the vicinity, with the exception of 36 of the Beys and principal people, who were sent to Ioannina. On the morning of the 15th of March, exactly one year before the day when I visited the remains of Gardiki, nearly 800 of the Gardikiotes were brought into the area of a large Khan, a few miles to the north-east of Argyro-Kastro. The Vizier himself came in his carriage to the gate of the Khan, which was every-where surrounded by his troops. The names of a certain number of the Gardikiotes were called out, who were allowed to depart from the area, and transported, with the

remainder of their countrymen, into a sort of slavery in other parts of Albania. Those left within the Khan, who are said to have been about 730 in number, were tied together with cords, to prevent the efforts that might be suggested by despair. They were all men; and selected, as it appears, either as having actually been in Gardiki at the time when the mother and sister of Ali were imprisoned there, or as the direct descendants of those who bore part in the outrage. Orders were given to the soldiers who surrounded them, standing on the high walls of the Khan, that when a signal was made by the report of a fusil, they should fire upon the prisoners in the area. This fusil is said to have been discharged by the Vizier himself, as he sat in his carriage. The work of slaughter instantly began, and was continued without intermission, either by the musket or sabre, till not a single one of the Gardikiotes remained alive. The fate of some was delayed a short time by their escape into certain wooden buildings within the area. The Vizier, however, who remained on the spot till the whole was completed, ordered fire to be put round these buildings, which drove the unhappy victims from their place of concealment. Some of them becoming desperate, took up stones, with which they wounded several of the soldiers employed in their destruction. At length, they all lay on the ground; every opening to the area was closed up; and the bodies were left without burial, to attest yet more strongly the vengeance which led to the act.

On the same day, the 36 Gardikiotes, who had been carried to Ioannina, and treated there with a delusive kindness, were transported to the other side of the lake, and shared the same fate as the rest. Even here the work was not wholly completed. I was informed that one or two of the principal inhabitants of Gardiki, who had been absent at the time this city was taken, were afterwards seduced to return; were murdered; and their bodies sent to the spot where the others had perished.

In returning to Ioannina from the north, I visited the Khan where this melancholy event took place. One of my Albanian guards, Constantine, had been among the soldiers employed in the destruction of the Gardikiotes; a circumstance of which he spoke with much seeming unconcern as respected himself; but with an air of alacrity or even of pride, as a testimony of the power and temper of his ferocious master. I found the area closed by high walls on every side. Over the former gate a stone tablet appeared; on which were inscribed a number of Romaic verses, commemorating the event. This inscription, placed here by the orders of the Vizier, I could not read, from its height above the ground; but I was told that it related several of the circumstances of the story; and concluded by stating, that such should be the fate of all who had injured the family of Ali Pasha. With some difficulty I got over the walls into the area; I found every-where, scattered upon the surface, the remains of the unfortunate victims who perished on the spot, as well as other

memorials of the manner in which this massacre was effected.

It would appear that Ali Pasha, if not considering this act as a meritorious one, in reference to the memory of his mother, yet certainly was insensible to any odium attaching to it. Besides the inscription just referred to, the event is fully recorded in a poetical history of his life, to which he has given a sanction for publication. Nor is it likely he would have directed me to the places bearing visible testimony to it, had he been assured that the action would have been of bad repute to an European judgment.

The route from Argyro-Kastro to Gardiki, carried me round the northern extremity of the great ridge, which forms the western boundary of the vale of the Deropuli. This extremity is striking from its abruptness, and from its complete conical form, when seen in front. On the declivity of these mountains, to the north of Argyro-Kastro, is the large town of Maschuri, with several smaller villages; most of which have greatly suffered, and some of them been wholly destroyed, from their connection with the Gardikiotes. A singular natural phenomenon occurs at a place called Vero, in the same vicinity; where a river, quite as large as the Avon at Bath, bursts at once from the ground, and falling over a platform of rock some feet in height, joins the Deropuli half a mile below. The small circular pool, out of which this river rises, at the foot of a limestone cliff, is of such depth, that the issue of this great body of water scarcely produces a ripple on the surface.

At the termination of the mountains, just noticed, a valley opens to the west, bringing down a small river to join that of Argyro-Kastro. Following the course of this stream for a few miles, we came in sight of Gardiki; situated on the steep acclivity of a double conical hill, with high mountains in the immediate back-ground; the castle crowning one summit of the hill; on the other nearly a thousand houses, all built of stone, lofty, and deriving an air of magnificence from their situation. As I looked upon Gardiki in the distance, it appeared to me one of the finest towns I had seen in Turkey. The near approach to it, was a mournful contradiction to the distant aspect. None of the usual busy sounds of a city met the ear; but there was a desolate stillness and silence, which gave an impression I shall not easily forget. I entered the streets; all here was vacant and deserted. The doors and windows of the houses were open; but no living sound came from within. The ruins of an ancient city display the hand of time, gradually working its decline; but this shewed itself as the effect of some sudden calamity, which at once had fallen upon the place; bringing to mind the enchanted city in one of the Arabian tales, where, as a punishment, all the inhabitants had been changed into stone. It would not be easy, indeed, to find a fitter subject for melancholy, that a city still retaining the exterior of all that denotes it such; but the inhabitants of which have suddenly and entirely disappeared.

As I walked through the silent streets, I saw a few peasants here and there employed in taking down the wooden beams of the larger houses, to transport them to the new Seraglio at Argyro-Kastro. The Vizier, it seems, has thrown a curse upon the place, and will not allow it, as long as his own power remains, to become again the habitation of man. The Gardikiotes who escaped from death, were dispersed among different towns, many of them to Prevesa, and Vonitza; and none have been permitted to resume their habitations in the depopulated city.

From Gardiki I returned down the river, to the place where it forms its junction with the Deropuli; with the view of examining a ruin on a flat peninsula at the confluence of the two streams. A square area, each side of which may be about 60 yards, is enclosed by a wall of Roman brick of considerable thickness. The situation and form indicate some fortress, or point of defence; but nothing further remains, to illustrate the former history of the spot. Adjoining it is the village of Neochori; lately built by the command of the Vizier, in consequence of the destruction of the inhabitants, who before cultivated the lands in this district.

I slept at Stipesi, a small village near the place where the river quits the broad valley of Argyro-Kastro, to enter the more contracted defiles, through which it flows northwards, to join the Viosa near Tepeleni. The mountains, contracting the valley, are in fact a continuation of those which previously

bounded it; but here without any intervening level. They do not, however, form precipitous cliffs in their whole ascent; but rising steeply for two or three miles from the river, are terminated towards their summit, by abrupt ridges of great height. Several towns and villages appear on their declivity; the largest of which is Lekli, the native place of Athanasius and Lucas Bia, the favourite, and the physician of Ali Pasha. The former has a large house, and much property, in this district.

As a landscape, the approach to Tepeleni is noble. A mile or two to the south of the town is the confluence of the Deropuli and the Viosa, forming in their junction a river not less than 250 yards in width, rapid and deep. This river retains the name of Viosa to the sea; a derivation doubtless from that of Aous, which was the ancient name of the stream. The branch, which is called Viosa, previously to the junction of the two rivers, descends towards Tepeleni from the south-east; approaching its point of confluence through the vast mountain-defiles of Klissoura, —a scenery full of boldness and majesty. This river rises by several streams from the Pindus chain, in the country to the north of Metzovo. Flowing in a direction north and west, it receives streams from Tzekel, Samarina, and other parts of the same chain, passes through the mountainous district called Charamoutates, and by the large town of Konitza situated near its right bank. The mountains of Charamoutates may all be considered as branches of

Pindus, connected with Nemertzka, and the other ridges to the west. * This district is said to contain about thirty Albanian villages; the inhabitants of which were formerly Christians, but for the most part have become Mahometans during the last century. I heard an anecdote regarding one of these villages, the name of which I do not recollect; — that, on some day of festival, after the service of the Greek church was over, the people assembled round their priests; told them that they and their fathers had been praying in this form for one year after another; that they found their situation in no degree bettered by it; and that they were determined, in a body, to change their religion; insisting, moreover, that the priests themselves should follow their example.

Lower down than Charamoutates, the Viosa passes the town of Permeti, containing about 700 houses; and flowing through the defiles of Klissoura, forms its junction with the river of Argyro-Kastro, just above Tepeleni. The latter town, the birth-place of Ali Pasha, is situated on the western or left bank of the river; on a lofty peninsular eminence, formed by the junction of the Bentza with the Viosa. The great Seraglio of the Vizier, almost equal in extent to that of Ioannina, stands on the brow of a rock, impending over the waters of the latter river. A large mosque is near to it; and

* I was told that in the district of Charamoutates, there are some appearances of sulphur and inflammable vapour, probably resembling those near Mosiari.

below are the remains of a bridge, destroyed by the violence of the winter-floods in the Viosa. This bridge has been broken down two or three times, notwithstanding many efforts of the Vizier to render it durable. It was last carried away by the floods in 1812; and no attempts have since been made to repair it. When I returned to Ioannina, Ali Pasha asked my opinion on the subject. I represented to him generally that I thought him too rapid in the execution of all such undertakings; and proposed at the same time a bridge of boats, as being on the whole best adapted to the place. He said that this had before been suggested, but that he wished to erect some more durable monument of himself at the place of his nativity. He had been told, he added, by some European engineer, that it was impossible; but still he was anxious to attempt it, should there be a chance of success.

The town of Tepeleni is small and wretched; and the Seraglio, and occasional residence of the Vizier, alone give consequence to it. There is a vulgar superstition existing here, that the place is destined not to contain more than a hundred houses; and that every one erected beyond this number is destroyed by some misfortune. This belief is singular in a town where double this number might easily be counted. The population is almost exclusively of Albanians; many of whom, from the partiality of Ali to his birth-place, and his confidence in their attachment, have obtained valuable offices in different parts of his dominions.

I proceeded to the Seraglio, to deliver my letters to Yusuf Aga, who commands here in the absence of the Vizier. This man, a Moor by birth, is one of the most confidential servants of Ali Pasha, and possesses an authority in this district which is only controuled by that of his master. He has obtained this influence, less perhaps from the length of his services, (though he has been with Ali from the boyhood of the latter,) than from a ferocity of temper which has made him capable of any service required of him. It was this man, as I learnt on good authority, who, twenty years ago, roasted alive a person that had rendered himself odious to the Vizier, and murdered his whole family; an anecdote to which I formerly referred. Only a few days before my arrival at Tepeleni, Yusuf had stabbed a man with his own hand; on what account I had not the means of learning. This sanguinary being is now not less than ninety years of age. His trust at Tepeleni is a very important one; a large portion of the treasure of the Vizier, being deposited, as it is said, at this place. I found him sitting in a small and dirty apartment of the Seraglio; meanly dressed himself, but surrounded by numerous, and richly dressed Albanian guards. Seven or eight dogs and cats were running about the room; some of the dogs covered with cloth jackets. There was something strangely uncouth about the whole scene; particularly in the old man himself, who, bending as he was from age, yet inspired a sort of terror from his dark and strongly

contracted face, and the occasional mixture of savageness and dissimulation in his features. He received me, however, with great attention, read the letter of the Vizier, and told me that he was ordered to give every assistance to my journey. Watching his face, while he was reading, I was at one moment a little alarmed by a sudden look he directed towards me, which was immediately followed by his whispering to an Albanian soldier who stood near him. This man left the apartment, and did not again return. There was probably nothing in this, and I might not have observed it but for the peculiar expression of the old Aga at the time.

Having sat with him half an hour, he directed his attendants to take me to an apartment, which had been prepared for me in one of the great galleries. The Seraglio of Tepeleni is on the site of that which originally belonged to Veli Pasha, the father of Ali. Some of the rooms in it are of great size, and sumptuously adorned; but the chief peculiarity is its fine situation, overhanging the river Viosa, and surrounded by the mountain-ridges which form the valley of this river, and of the Bentza. The Haram, which, from its exterior, appears to be very extensive, is on the northern side of the Seraglio; every-where guarded by lofty walls, and particularly where it is open to the valley of the Bentza. Here the wife of Ali Pasha, mother of Sali Bey, has her residence; together with sixty other females, chiefly in the capacity of her attendants. This lady, when it was made known to her that I was a friend of

the Vizier, sent to compliment me on my arrival, and to express her intention of preparing a dinner for me. In consequence of this message, I was obliged to continue fasting for two or three hours, fearful of doing any thing which might seem incorrect in relation to the intended compliment. At the expiration of this time, I saw the gates opening, which conduct to the enclosure of the Haram; and several black slaves appeared, bearing a long succession of dishes towards my apartment in the gallery. The table apparatus was, as usual, simple in the extreme; consisting of little more than a tray, napkins, two or three spoons, and a single fork. About twenty dishes were successively set before me. The meats, chiefly mutton or fowl, were prepared for the most part in the form of stews: in the sweet dishes, honey was a principal ingredient, according to the Turkish custom. One large glass vessel upon the table was filled with milk and almonds. While at dinner, a man came in, an Italian by birth, who had been with the French armies in Spain; had been taken prisoner by the English, entered into the Corsican Rangers, and deserted from Santa Maura to the coast of Albania. He now, together with another Italian of the same fortunes, superintends the gardens of the Vizier at Tepeleni, receiving in this situation a piastre a-day, besides his food and clothing.

After dinner I conveyed to the Haram, through Yusuf Aga, my acknowledgments for the honour done me by the wife of the Vizier. In the evening,

a splendid apparel of bed-clothes was sent me from the same quarter, which, as usual, were spread on one of the sophas of the apartment. The outer covering was of purple velvet, very richly worked with gold embroidery. The sheets, which were of muslin, had long fringes; in addition to which, flowers were here and there worked in them, with variously coloured threads, producing an effect much more agreeable to the sense of sight than to that of touch. I had no other means of making acknowledgment for these favours, but by conveying to the lady some compliments on the personal and intellectual qualities of her son Sali Bey, to whom she is represented to be ardently attached.

The Bentza, the river which joins the Viosa at Tepeleni, rises among the high mountains to the west of this place, and flows through a very profound valley, contracted by cliffs of immense height, which display a beautiful stratification of the limestone composing them. The village of Bentza has an extraordinary situation at the foot of these cliffs, two or three miles above Tepeleni. Some miles higher up the valley, and likewise in a very singular position, is the town of Nivitza, containing more than 600 houses. At this place there are considerable ruins, which, from the description, I judge to be of Cyclopian structure, and belonging to one of the ancient Chaonian cities. In the same mountainous region, there are several other villages, chiefly peopled by shepherds, the flocks being very large and numerous upon these mountains. I was

informed that nearly 30,000 sheep belong to the village of Bentza alone, and a proportionate number to other places in the vicinity.

The ancient geography of this district labours under the same obscurity as other parts of the interior of Epirus. The identity of the river Viosa, with the Aous or Aias of antiquity, may be regarded indeed as certain; but the site of Antigonia, Phœnice, Hecatompedon, and other cities of this region, can by no means be equally fixed. Meletius has spoken of Argyro-Kastro as corresponding with the position of Antigonia. I am not aware of any remains on the spot to prove this; but if it is considered that the contracted part of the valley between Argyro-Kastro and Tepeleni forms the *Stena* or Pass, which is described by Livy and Polybius as near Antigonia, then it is possible that the opinion may be an accurate one. * From the description of Livy, in his account of the warfare of the Romans with the last Philip of Macedon, in this part of Epirus, it is certainly probable that this is the pass referred to; though it is also possible that it may be the defile of Klissura, and the mountains Æropus and Asnaus those which are actually seen, forming the boundaries of this defile. The contracted passes, however, of the two rivers, near their junction, are so entirely formed in the same range of mountains, that the question is of little importance; and the

* Polybius speaks of this Pass as the των παρ' Αντιγονειαν στενων. Lib. ii. 5. Livy uses the expression, "ad occupandas quæ ad Antigoniam fauces sunt: *sthena* vocant Græci." Lib. xxxii. c. 5.

narrative Livy gives of the surprise, defeat, and flight of Philip, before the army of Flaminius, is easily comprehended from the general topography of the spot. *

I should venture, though with caution, to surmise from a passage in Polybius (lib. ii. c. 5.) that the site of Phœnice, which he describes as one of the strongest and most powerful cities of Epirus, may have been somewhere in the district adjoining Tepeleni. The modern Albanian name of the district, which includes Tepeleni, is taken from that of the tribe inhabiting it. This tribe, called the Toskides, occupy the country on both sides of the Viosa, from its junction with the river of Argyro-Kastro to its mouth; stretching northwards also, so as to include Berat, Durazzo, and the extensive plains which here border upon the Adriatic sea.

* See also, in reference to the situation of this pass, Plutarch in vit. Flaminii.

CHAP. XXIV.

DEPARTURE FROM TEPELENI.—LOPESI. — LUNETZI. — CARBONARA.—RUINS AT GRADISTA.—LATIN INSCRIPTION.——LOSS OF PAPERS. — MONASTERY OF POLLINA. — RUINS OF APOLLONIA. — AVLONA. — ACROCERAUNIAN MOUNTAINS. — PITCH MINES OF SCLENITZA. — ANCIENT ORACLE OF NYMPHÆUM. — RETURN TO TEPELENI. — JOURNEY TO IOANNINA.

I QUITTED Tepeleni to descend along the valley of the Viosa, with a view of examining the ruins of Apollonia, near the mouth of this river, and other places of interest in the same district. In compliance with the direction of the Vizier, Yusuf Aga appointed an Albanian officer, named Martino, to attend me on this journey, as a person who well knew the country. He joined my party well dressed, armed, and mounted, bringing with him an attendant to carry his luggage.

Crossing the Bentza, half a mile from Tepeleni, by a fine bridge of one large arch, recently erected, we took a northerly direction between the foot of the mountains and the Viosa, an interval of three or four miles, occupied by a plain, or by low secondary hills. This ridge of mountains, connected with those of the valley of the Bentza, has here the name of Argenik ; the district stretching down to the river is called Lopesi, — a tract of country very populous, and containing many large

villages, which, for the most part, have very picturesque situations on the declivity of the mountains. The Albanians inhabiting it are brave, warlike, and strongly attached to the person and interests of Ali Pasha. Before I left Ioannina, the Vizier spoke to me of this people, describing them as ανθρωποι αγριοι, μα παλικαρι και πιστοι, "men rude in their habits, but valorous and faithful." He passed much of his youth among them, and to their services was greatly indebted for his safety, in this turbulent period of his life.

Two miles from Tepeleni, I stopped to examine some ruins on the summit of an insulated hill, between the ridge of Argenik, and a lower ridge descending to the Viosa. I found nothing remarkable at this spot; and, from the appearance of the ruins, should conjecture that they may be the remains of one of the many fortresses, erected by Justinian to guard the passes of Epirus.

I passed a night in one of the villages of Lopesi, a few miles to the north of Tepeleni. Travelling now in a district, where there are no Greek houses, and all the inhabitants are Mahometans, I was obliged to have recourse to the authority of my passport to procure myself a lodging. My new guard, Martino, though himself a Christian, yet from being on good terms with Yusuf Aga, whose name is held in great terror in this part of the country, managed this for me with facility. I was admitted into the best house of the village, where I passed the night; without any other inconvenience, than

that of waiting a few minutes at the door till the females of the family had been removed into their private apartments. My host was a man of civility and intelligence. He had known the Vizier from his youth; and, pointing at the couch on which I was then sitting, he told me that he recollected the young Ali sleeping upon it, more than forty years before, when seeking refuge here from the enemies who then oppressed him.

From the summit of a hill, behind this village, I had an interesting geographical view of the country. In front, the Viosa was seen, making a bend towards the west, and then resuming its general direction of N.N.W. in which it may be traced for many miles, at the foot of the hills which are continued northwards from Argenik. On the opposite side of the river, to the N.E., the country, though hilly, is less elevated; till passing over numerous successive ridges, the eye rests upon the great and magnificent mass of Mount Tomarit; at the distance from this spot of more than 30 miles. This mountain, near the base of which is the town of Berat, may be regarded as one of the highest in Albania. Notwithstanding the name, it is scarcely possible to conceive of it as the Mount Tomarus, under which was the oracle of Dodona; the reasons for which opinion, will be found in a former part of this work. *

* See p. 145. — On the banks of the Viosa, below this village of Lopesi, are the remains of a fortress, which is evidently Roman in its origin.

I continued my route along the left bank of the Viosa, to the small town of Lunetzi, about 16 miles from Tepeleni. The river is every-where a fine object; flowing here in a broad channel, and its banks well wooded. At Lunetzi, the hills on each side approach each other, forming a narrow Pass, through which the river flows on in a deep and rapid stream; the cliffs in many places descending perpendicularly to the water; and taking those singular forms, which limestone rocks often assume. Near this place, there is a ferry, where it was my design to pass the Viosa. The stream had been swelled, however, by late rains; and after spending half an hour in hesitation on its banks, the ferrymen declared they would not venture across. I could not regret this resolution, as there was much danger in the extreme rapidity of the current; and a heavy storm of wind and rain, which occurred at this time, would probably have further embarrassed our movements.

Under these circumstances, I decided on taking the road to Carbonara, a town five hours journey further down the river, there to seek a passage across to the ruins at Gradista; which it was my next object to examine. A precipitous path for some miles among the limestone cliffs which overhang the Viosa, brought us again into a plain and fertile country; forming a sort of basin among the mountains. On one of these cliffs, two miles from Lunetzi, are the ruins of an ancient fortress, placed on a pinnacle of rock, impending over the river;

and so situated, that the only access is by a rude flight of stairs, cut in the rock.

The plain of Kalutzi, in which I had now arrived, expands chiefly on the north side of the Viosa. It is rich and beautiful, and has a large population inhabiting different towns and villages on the skirts of the hills. The loftiest mountain, bordering on the plain, is one called Griva; which, like most of the limestone chains and elevations of this country, terminates in the summit as a ridge. Numerous flocks of sheep feed on these hills; the produce of the plain is chiefly maize, wheat, and tobacco. The culture of the land is very neat, and I was struck by the fine appearance of the oxen employed at the plough. The oxen of Chaonia, in which region I was now travelling, had always much celebrity; and are noticed by Aristotle, Ælian, and other writers, in terms of encomium for their strength and beauty.*

Beyond this plain, the valley is again contracted by the approach of ridges of hill. These, however, are much lower than the mountains, among which I had been travelling for some days past; and the whole level of the country is seen gradually declining towards the sea, and the great plains which border this part of the coast. The town of Carbonara is situated beyond this pass, on another ridge of hill which runs down to the river, thickly covered with olives and other trees; among which

* Arist. Hist. Animal. lib. iii. 21. Ælian. lib. xii. c. 11. Plin. Hist. Nat. lib. viii. 45.

the houses are scattered singly in the most picturesque situations, each with a small enclosure around it. Ascending the hill into the town, I was quickly surrounded by a crowd of people assembled to gaze at a Frank stranger; a very rare sight in this place. The population of Carbonara is entirely Mahometan; and I found the principal person here to be a Dervish, who is said to have great influence in the district; and whose manners were extremely authoritative towards the people. Having delivered my *buyrouldi* to this man, a lodging was appointed for me; with the same necessity, however, of waiting till the females of the family were removed elsewhere. My hostesses, though invisible, supplied me with a very good supper of dishes cooked according to the Turkish manner.

The following morning I devoted to an examination of the ruins at Gradista, on the eastern side of the Viosa. We crossed the river by a ferry, called Lundra, two miles from Carbonara; to which place I was accompanied by the Dervish, and by my host of the preceding night. The passage over was attended with some difficulty. The violence of the current carried our boat far below the place where we embarked; and brought us upon a bank of sand within the stream, where we were obliged to get out the horses, and to ride for some distance through the water. A single passage of the ferry-boat to and fro occupied nearly an hour. I crossed first, accompanied by two of the guards, and my Greek servant, leaving the others to follow

with the luggage, whilst I went to examine the ruins at Gradista. This separation proved a very unfortunate one to me; as it was on this occasion that I sustained the loss, alluded to in the preface, of a small portmanteau, containing the greater part of the papers, journals, and maps, which I had drawn up during my present journey in Albania. In what manner this happened, whether by accident or otherwise, I have no exact means of knowing. I was not myself aware of the loss, till, on rejoining in the evening those of my guards whom I had left behind, the package was discovered to be wanting. The account they gave me, while asserting perfect ignorance of the matter, was not by any means satisfactory; though affording at least a sort of certainty, that the portmanteau never went beyond the ferry of Lundra, but was either lost or stolen at this spot.

The ruins at Gradista are situated on a lofty hill, which approaches to the right bank of the Viosa; insulated on each side by vallies, and merely connected in one point with the high ground behind. The position shews at first sight its strength and capability of defence, according to the methods of ancient warfare. I ascended by a steep path to the summit of the hill, passing through the wretched and almost deserted village of Gradista; where with difficulty we procured information as to our route. This district of country belonged, until lately, to Ibrahim Pasha of Berat; under whose government its inhabitants were remarkable for wild-

ness and ferocity. At that time it was almost impossible to travel in this part of Albania with security; an evil which has already been remedied by the more absolute, and, in some respects, more enlightened rule of Ali Pasha. His name here, as elsewhere, has an influence which can exist only under a perfect despotism.

The summit of the hill presents a tabular surface of some extent, on which are the ruins of an ancient city, still visible in the greater part of the circumference of the walls, and in the remains of different edifices within their area. The situation of the city must have been very fine, as well as strong. The walls may be traced, following the brow of the hill on its western and northern sides; with a transverse wall connecting the extremities of this curve, and other portions extending the defences along the edge of the declivity. There is evidence that a part of these walls has been built at two distinct periods, — a circumstance most obvious in the transverse one, where the old Cyclopian structure is seen below; while above this there is a comparatively recent portion, built more rudely with small stones and cement.

Near the transverse wall, and within the area of the city, I found several fragments of columns, of small dimension, composed of a coarse marble, some fluted, others not so. In the same situation, I observed also an ancient wall, in great part broken down, but still shewing that excellence of workmanship which is so generally apparent in the ancient

Greek structure. Farther towards the centre of the area, there are the vestiges, but more or less concealed under ground, of some public edifice, in all probability one of the temples of the city. The fragments of ten or twelve columns appear at this spot, with many other sculptured stones; and, from the nature of the ground, I think it probable that much more might still be restored by excavation.

Just without the area of the walls, on the western side, some perpendicular ledges of rock overhang the declivity, which stretches down to the valley of the Viosa. On one of these faces of rock, I found the Latin inscription, of which I have given a copy below, as accurate as I was enabled to make it.* The letters, which are large, are included within an oblong space of rock, the surface of which has been rendered plane for their inscription. It was impossible to make the copy complete; as

* M. VALERIVS, M × QVIRI × × M × X × MVS ———
× × CONS: COHORTIA. × × MEN. R × MSA ———
EQVIT. TRIB. MILIT × × CVII. GEME × LI × A—
PR × EF × × TVS. IN MESOPOTAMIA VEXILLATIONIBVS EQVI × VM.
E———MALAR × M
PR × × × ORIAE. AVGVSTA. ×. SYRIACAE AGRIPPIANAE HERC VII
S × × INSVLARIVM = ITEM COHORTIVM × × V CENS + VM × × PIAE
× × R × × × CR × × × ACVM III VIRIAE PA × × AGONVM II EQVITVM
× × ——
CALONITANORVM × × V CHALCIDENORVM V PEIREORVM IIII
ENSIVM I VLPIAE. PETRAEO × VM II VLPIAE. PALLAGONVM I. VLPIAE
SAGITTARIORVM III DACORVM I ———GAM———RVM—
VIAM PVB——— QVAE. A. COL. BVLLID—
PERAST × CIAS ——— ANGVSTIAM FRAGO × AM —— PIC × × OS
ITA MVNIT VT VEHICVLIS COMME × TVR ITEM———
MARGVA FLVMINE ET RIVIS D———
ET. IN SC——— SIT. D. D.

well from the erasure of some of the letters, as from the height of the surface of rock above the the ground, which made it necessary to stand on the back of a horse while transcribing the upper portion. The inscription will be seen to relate to the circumstance of the Roman military commanders in this district having repaired, and rendered carriageable, the public road from the town of Bullis to some other point in the neighbourhood, the name and situation of which is not perfectly distinct, but which appears to have been near the banks of the Viosa. It is unfortunate that the inscription affords no decisive testimony as to the town, of which the ruins remain at this spot. Bullis is mentioned by Ptolemy as a city of the Elymiotes, and is referred to by Cæsar, Cicero, and Plutarch, in its connection with the civil wars of the Romans on the frontiers of Illyricum and * Epirus. From these allusions, however, it appears rather doubtful whether this town could have been situated on the right bank of the Viosa, in the position of the ruins at Gradista. On the contrary, the site of Bullis has been generally supposed by geographers on the other side the river, and nearer to the coast and the port of Avlona. How far this opinion may be rendered doubtful by the place and terms of the inscription just given, I will not pretend to determine. If the ruins here do not

* See Cæs. Comment.; Ciceron. xi. Philipp.; and Plutarch in vita M. Bruti. — Stephanus calls Bullis, "πολις Ιλλυριδος παραθαλασσια."

indicate the position of Bullis, they may perhaps be regarded as those of Amantia, another city spoken of by Ptolemy as in the district of Orestis, in this region. I made diligent enquiry among the peasants of the adjacent villages, for any coins found on the spot, but without success. Considering, however, the extent of the ruins, I should think it probable, that a more detailed examination of them, would discover something to ascertain their former name; and this may be pointed out as one of the objects which is worthy the attention of future travellers in Albania.

The view from the summit of the hill at Gradista extends to the shores of the Adriatic, and shews the course of the Viosa, no longer confined among mountains, but winding through the extensive plains which border upon the coast. On the opposite side of the valley, somewhat lower down than the ruins, is seen the village of Selenitza, celebrated for its pitch mines; of which I shall hereafter have occasion to speak.

Having remained some hours among the ruins, I resumed my journey; descending into the valley, which forms the boundary of the hill to the north-east. In the old walls on this side, there are the vestiges of a gate, which seems to have been the principal one of the city. The declivity of the hill is covered with fragments of sculptured stone removed from their original situation, particularly near the path which conducts into the valley below. My route was continued for about fourteen miles,

still on the right side of the Viosa, and over the plains, upon which it enters a short distance below Gradista. A deep alluvial soil forms the whole extent of these plains, which are extremely rich and fertile, and support a very considerable population, distributed in numerous small villages over their surface. The cultivation is chiefly of maize and wheat, of which a large surplus is exported from the country. The same plains, intersected here and there by low ridges or eminences, extend far along the coast in the direction of Durazzo, and form a very important acquisition to the power of Ali Pasha, who obtained this territory as a part of the Páshalik of Berat.

In the evening, I arrived at the village of Fracola, where I met my luggage-horses, and the two guards whom I had left with them, and made the discovery of the loss of the package containing my papers. Conceiving at the moment that there might be some hope of regaining it, I instantly sent back the *sourudze* with a peasant of the village, to retrace the day's journey; while I proceeded myself to the Monastery of Pollina, on the site of the ancient Apollonia, with directions that they should join me there the next morning. The monastery is distant from Fracola only four or five miles. I travelled thither by moonlight, and notwithstanding my recent misfortune, could not but enjoy the singularity of the scene; — the plains spread before me as a sort of misty expanse; — the dull murmur of the sea heard from the distance; —

the tall and masculine figures of my guards seen partially, and at intervals, as the light fell upon them. In our way we passed a large groupe of gipsies, whose tents were pitched near the road side; their fires kindled in the midst, and thirty or forty of these people sitting around the blazing piles.

We reached the monastery at ten o'clock; directed to it less by the appearance of any track, than by the barking of the Albanian dogs, which were stationed around, to notice to its inhabitants the arrival of strangers, — a needful precaution in a country where terror and insecurity have so long prevailed. It was with much difficulty we obtained admittance into the building, and not till my guards had threatened the monks with the vengeance of the Vizier, if they continued their refusal to open the doors. An elderly monk at length came out with a light, and conducted us into a wretched apartment, where two or three of his brethren had been sleeping around a fire. These poor men still regarded our visit with apprehension, and it was not easy to satisfy them that we had no design of plundering their property. The misery of the Christian monks, in every part of Albania, is very great. They have been peculiarly the prey of the lawless rulers, who have successively had power in this country; and their defencelessness, equally with their religion, has exposed them to every species of outrage.

After waiting some time, my hosts brought me a

repast of bread, milk, and honey, and made up a rude bed in one of the rooms of the monastery. Honey, which at this time formed a principal article in my diet, is abundant in every part of Albania. The kind and quality vary much in different districts; but I found none that might compare in excellence with that of Hymettus.

The monastery of Pollina obtains its name from the city of Apollonia, placed just within the frontier of the ancient Illyricum, and once among the most considerable and important places of this region. Founded originally by the Corinthians, when they were settling colonies on this coast, it appears to have increased in consequence even till the age of the Roman emperors. Cicero calls it "urbem magnam et gravem," and the young Octavius, the future Augustus of Rome, was sent hither to receive his education, and had resided six months in the city before the death of Julius Cæsar summoned him to Italy.* A circumstance which doubtless contributed to maintain the importance of Apollonia, was its being a principal point of communication between Italy and all the northern parts of Greece, Macedonia, Thrace, &c. Situated nearly opposite to the Italian port of Brundusium, it formed the commencement of the great road called the Via Ignatia; which proceeded eastwards to Thessalonica, through the considerable towns of Lychnis, Heraclea, Lyncestas, Eordos, Edessa, and

* Cic. Philip. xi. Plut. in vit. M. Bruti. Appian, lib. iii.

Pellâ. This situation, as well as the size of the city and the fertility of the surrounding plains rendered it frequently an object of military importance, as was particularly the case in the war between Philip and the Romans, and in the civil war between Cæsar and Pompey. * The causes of its decline and destruction are not distinctly known, but probably were the same as those which affected Nicopolis, and the other cities of this region.

The position of Apollonia has occasionally been mistaken by geographers, who have placed it to the north of the Apsus, and near the mouth of that river. The similarity between the Aous and the Apsus in their name and general course, has probably led to this mistake, which is clearly corrected by the testimony of ancient writers.† There can be no doubt that Apollonia was situated near the coast, a little to the north of the mouth of the Aous; a site which, independently of the name and actual remains, will be found to correspond perfectly with that of Pollina. The Apsus enters the sea still further to the north, — a circumstance distinctly shewn by the narrative of the two wars of

* Liv. lib. xxiv. xl. Cæs. Bell. Civ. lib. iii.

† Ptolemy, in describing Illyricum, mentions successively Dyrrachium, the mouth of the Apsus, Apollonia, and the mouth of the Aous. Strabo, (lib. 7.) Pliny (lib. iii. c. 23.) and Polybius, (v. 110.) are all equally distinct as to the situation of Apollonia, near the mouth of the Aous. In the civil war between Cæsar and Pompey, when the latter was at Dyrrachium, Cæsar took a position on the Apsus to cover Apollonia, of which he was at this time the master. Plutarch (in vitâ Flaminii) is perhaps not equally correct as to the relative situation of the two rivers.

which I have just spoken. It appears that the territory of Apollonia extended northwards to this river; and, in former times, as at present, was remarkable for the fertility of its soil, formed chiefly by alluvial depositions.*

The limits of the ancient city cannot now be accurately traced, as the vestiges of the walls are very inconsiderable. It seems, however, to have stood on, or amongst, a groupe of low hills which rise upon the plains, with a western and southern aspect towards the coast and the mouth of the Viosa. A Doric column, forming the most conspicuous object among the ruins, may be distant somewhat more than two miles from the sea, which, immediately opposite this point, connects itself with a salt-water lake upon the plains. This column, the sole remains of an ancient temple, stands on one of the eminences just mentioned. The modern monastery is situated on another hill, half a mile to the north of the former; which hill likewise, in all probability, made a part of the old city. A third eminence, adjoining the other two, was also perhaps occupied by the buildings of the place. The actual remains of Apollonia are very inconsiderable. Until within the last few years, a groupe of columns stood upon the spot, where only one is now left; but these, with various other architectural vestiges, were destroyed, or carried away to furnish materials for the buildings of the Pasha of Berat. It was

* Cæs. Bell. Civ. lib. iii. Di. Cass. lib. xli.

told me that at Berat numerous fragments of columns, bas-reliefs, &c. might be seen intermixed with the heterogeneous forms of Turkish architecture.

In situation and appearance the monastery of Pollina is very picturesque. Groupes of trees are scattered over the hill on which it stands; a lofty square tower, and a circular one with a conical cupola, rise above the other buildings of the monastery; several ancient cypresses, which surround them, give a character of sanctity to the spot. Most of the stones, of which the buildings are composed, have evidently been taken from the ruins of Apollonia. I found various fragments of statues and columns enclosed in the walls of the monastery; and some finely sculptured marbles under the portico, which forms the entrance to the chapel. In one place I discovered the remains of a fine basso-relievo; the figure of a man thrusting with his foot to the ground, a female, who is on her knees before him, her arms raised in the air; while another male figure behind, is apparently dragging away the former from his victim. The attitude of the female in this groupe is very striking; and the sculpture seems to have had much excellence, but is now greatly defaced by time. From its size and form, the stone probably belonged to the frieze of one of the temples of Apollonia.

In various parts of the buildings of the monastery, particularly about the great gate, I found pieces of sculpture apparently of much later date, and of very rude workmanship; the figures of animals, branches,

and leaves. I copied also several Greek inscriptions, which occur in the walls; but with one exception, they were all sepulchral, and afforded nothing worthy of particular notice.

From the monastery, I went to examine the Doric column, already mentioned. That it belonged to an ancient temple, is at once evident from the nature of the ground, without reference to the other seven columns, which have been carried from this place to Berat. The whole shaft, and part of the capital still remain, and the fluting is tolerably perfect. The diameter of the column, about two feet from the base, is somewhat more than four feet four inches. Its height I had no longer the means of accurately measuring; but I should estimate it at about 24 feet; an intermediate proportion to the eye between the Parthenon of Athens, and the Doric temple at Corinth. It appears to have been one of the angular columns of the building. An area indistinctly marked by channels in the ground, gives a length of about 44 yards; with an extent of nearly 16 in the other dimension. The surface, however, is so much covered with soil and brush-wood, that no other remains are visible on the spot, except a few imperfect fragments of stone.

The situation in which this temple stood is remarkably fine, commanding a view of great extent and variety. To the south-west and west, are seen the mouth of the Viosa; the fertile plains stretching along the shores of the Adriatic; the sea itself beyond; and a small island, probably that of Sason,

mentioned by Polybius.* Following the landscape to the south and south-east, the celebrated ridge of the Acroceraunian mountains terminates the view. These mountains, which I had but indistinctly seen the night before in approaching the monastery, begin beyond the port of Avlona, and to the south of the Viosa, and extend far along the coast; presenting an outline of great height, and remarkable abruptness. Succeeding to them in the circuit of the landscape, are the mountains, forming the valley of the Viosa above Carbonara; and following the view towards the north, the great mountain of Tomarit, and the plains or low ranges of hill, which extend along the coast towards Durazzo, being the southern part of the ancient Illyria. In this direction probably were the silver mines of Damastium, mentioned by Strabo. The traveller, seeing from the site of Apollonia, the flocks of sheep which feed on the adjoining plains, will be reminded of the anecdote of Herodotus regarding the sacred sheep of the sun, which anciently were held in such veneration by the people of this city.†

* Polyb. v. 110.

† These sacred sheep of Apollonia derived their sanctity from certain oracular declarations of Delphi and Dodona. The principal people of the city had the charge of them year by year, in turns. While one Euenius was intrusted with the guard, the wolves got into the cavern where they were kept, and killed 60 of the number. For his supposed negligence, Euenius was deprived of his eyes; after which, the remaining sheep instantly became barren, and the ground no longer yielded its proper verdure. The oracles being consulted, it was answered, that

When leaving Ioannina, I had the intention of visiting the city of Berat, which is not more than a day's journey from Pollina; but the loss of clothes, together with my papers, prevented the execution of this design. There is nothing very remarkable, as I understand, about the place, which has now lost its importance as the residence of a Pasha. It is said to contain about 15,000 inhabitants.

Having remained at the monastery till noon, without seeing any thing of the people whom I had sent in search of my portmanteau, I decided on returning to Fracola, to await their arrival there. Before leaving Pollina I received a request from the monks, that I would speak to Ali Pasha on their behalf, praying him for a protection against the visits of the Albanian soldiery, and the other depredators, who infested their residence. They were so earnest in their entreaties, that I gave them the promise of using for their advantage, any influence I might have.

At Fracola I met the *sourudze* returning, without any tidings of my portmanteau. My anxiety on this subject induced me to return still further upon my former route, and I proceeded to a village a few miles further up the valley of the Viosa,

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he had been unjustly treated, and that compensation must be made him, before these calamities could be removed. In consequence of this, the blind Euenius received two of the finest farms about Apollonia, as a satisfaction for the loss of his eyes. See Herodot. lib. ix. 93.

whence I dispatched Martino and my Greek servant, to renew the search, directing them to proceed as far as the ferry of Lundra. Meanwhile I took up my quarters in an Albanian cottage, or hut, built simply of mud, reeds, and the stalks of Indian corn. All the villages in this district consist of houses of similar construction, and are peculiarly rude in their aspect. The appearance of the inhabitants, as far as I could judge, corresponds with this character. They are of the Albanian tribe of Toskides; and if the opinion be well founded that the Albanians are descended from the ancient Illyrians, they may be considered as actually inhabiting the country which belonged to their remote ancestors. The region of Illyricum, though not perhaps very exactly defined, appears to have comprehended a part of the country to the north of the Aous, near the mouth of this river.

The weather, though now the 20th of March, was still frosty and cold; and even thus near to the coast, all the higher mountains in the landscape were covered with snow. The view from the village where I slept, of the Acroceraunian mountains, now called the Chimarra, shewed in a singular manner the serrated outline of this lofty ridge.

The following morning I proceeded further up the valley, to meet the party whom I had sent off the evening before. They returned with the same want of success as in their former search. Assured now that I had little chance of repairing my loss, and beginning to suspect that some one of my

guards was concerned in it, I was compelled to determine upon returning to Ioannina as speedily as possible; resigning reluctantly, from the want of clothes and other necessaries, several objects which would have been interesting to me in this part of Albania. The only deviation on which I could venture from the direct route, was in going to the city of Avlona, at the northern extremity of the Chimarra mountains; as well to visit the place, as to obtain fresh horses for my journey.

Crossing by a difficult ferry to the south side of the Viosa, I pursued my route to Avlona; over the plains which border on the river, and on a smaller stream descending from the neighbourhood of Delvino, and holding its course in a northerly direction between the mountains of the Chimarra, and the ridges which stretch along the western side of the Viosa.* Between this river and Avlona, I crossed a low chain of hills, which I found to be chiefly composed of grey lamellar gypsum, resembling that of the great gypsum formation I had observed on the banks of the Kalama. This formation appears also to be very considerable; the hills stretching for some miles in a direction parallel to the shores of the gulf of Avlona. These hills render the approach to the town very beautiful. They are intersected by deep vallies, the sides of which are covered with wood: at their foot, and in part en-

* Can this river be the Celydnus of antiquity? Its modern name, I understood, but on doubtful authority, to be the Suchitza.

circled by them, is seen the town; beyond it a stripe of fertile plain stretching down to the shore. The gulf of Avlona is so environed by hills, that it has the appearance of a great lake, the southern boundary of which is formed by the steep and rugged ascent of the Acroceraunian mountains.

Descending from the hills, we entered the town; and proceeding along a handsome street, which belongs rather to the Italian than Turkish style of building, came to a large edifice, formerly the residence of the Pasha, now inhabited by the Albanian Commandant, who governs in the name of Ali Pasha. I found this man sitting in an open gallery which traverses the street just mentioned, surrounded by Albanian soldiers; himself a man between fifty and sixty, of strong masculine appearance. It was told me that he had been in the service of Ibrahim, during the wars between this Pasha and Ali; but that in consideration of his influence in this part of the country, and probably other more concealed circumstances, he had gained the favour of the Vizier, and been appointed to his present situation. My passport procured me great attention from him; and being informed of the loss of my portmanteau, he immediately gave orders that twelve Albanian soldiers should be sent to the different villages on my former route, with directions not to return till they had recovered it. Whether this was actually done, I had not the means of knowing; but it is most probable that the order was merely a nominal one.

The town of Avlona, or Salona, existed in ancient times under the same name, and had some importance as a maritime place, from the secure station for shipping which its gulf afforded. In the war between Cæsar and Pompey on this coast, it continued in the interest of the former, and repelled the attack of M. Octavius, one of Pompey's generals, who was sent against it. * Its long connection with Italy has given much of Italian exterior to the modern town, though the population is now almost entirely Mahometan, and the number of Greek families in the place does not exceed thirty. Until the submission of Ibrahim Pasha to the superior force of Ali, it was connected with the Pashalik of Berat. Its subjection to the latter gives him a port of considerable importance, as an outlet for the produce of this country. The exports are chiefly of wheat, maize, wool, oil, and mineral pitch, the latter article being derived from the mines of Selenitza, about eight miles from Avlona; the oil and grain from the hills surrounding the gulf, and from the great plains and vallies in this part of Albania. The town contains nearly a thousand houses. There are six mosques in it, and one Greek church. Besides the export trade of the place, it has long been one of the principal channels for the introduction of Italian and German goods into the interior of Albania.

The district of the Chimarra, or Acroceraunian

* Cæs. Comm. Bel. Civ. lib. iii.

mountains, stretching along the coast to the south of the gulf of Avlona, resembles that of Suli in having maintained a sort of rude independence, amidst the many petty revolutions which have occurred in this part of Turkey. The Chimarriotes belong to the Albanian tribe of the Liapides, inhabiting the country between Avlona and Delvino. Like the Suliotes, they have always had the character of wildness and ferocity in their habits; and it was their custom to make excursions into the neighbouring districts for the sake of plunder, until the more powerful government of Ali Pasha reduced them to a state of comparative tranquillity. Their principal occupation is that of shepherds, the mountains supporting numerous and large flocks of sheep. Some of the vallies and skirts of the hills are tolerably well cultivated, and have a large population; the higher parts of the mountains are covered in great measure with oaks or pines. On the coast underneath the ridges of Chimarra is Porto Panormo, or Palermo, the Panormus of antiquity. The place where Cæsar disembarked his army in coming from Brundusium, is probably in the vicinity of Palassa, on the same coast, immediately to the south of the gulf of Avlona. There are many vestiges of ancient towns in this vicinity, amongst others some which seem to indicate the site of Oricum, at a place which still has the name of Ric.

Pliny speaks of the Aornus of Epirus, as situated among the Acroceraunian mountains; but I am

not aware of any circumstance to indicate the place to which he alludes. The origin of the name of these hills, from the lightning which frequently fell upon them, is particularly mentioned by Eusthathius. The dread felt by the Roman navigators of the "infames scopulos" of the Acroceraunian mountains is well known; and it may easily be understood how this coast, the first seen by those coming from Italy, should have been rendered formidable by its abrupt exposure to the west, and to the gusts of wind descending down the narrow channel of the Adriatic.

On the 21st of March, having procured fresh horses by the care of the Commandant, I quitted Avlona, with the intention of returning to Ioannina as speedily as possible, being now in want of almost every thing that could be required for travelling with advantage or comfort. I was gratified by the opportunity of taking in my way the pitch mines, already mentioned, at Selenitza on the left bank of the Viosa. In proceeding thither, I crossed by a new route the chain of gypsum hills, the valley of the river coming from Delvino, and a second low ridge of hills, dividing this valley from that of the Viosa. These hills are of recent formation, composed of a limestone conglomerate, very easy of decomposition; of shale, and of a soft and friable sandstone. The pitch formation of Selenitza is in the same range of high ground; somewhat further up the valley of the Viosa, on the way to Carbonara. The hills at this place are

broken by numerous deep ravines, dividing them into irregular and intersecting ridges, on the declivity of one of which is the wretched village of Selenitza, inhabited entirely by the workmen of the mines. We met an assemblage of these people near the village; and a Greek priest, whom I found amongst them, undertook to be my guide to all that was to be seen on the spot.

The mineral pitch formation at this place, is one of the most considerable that have yet been described, though doubtless much inferior to that which occurs near the shores of the Caspian Sea. I had not the time, or other means, to ascertain its extent with accuracy; but from the observation of different points in the circuit pointed out to me, I should conceive that the bed or beds of this mineral, must be diffused over a surface, at least four miles in circumference, though probably very irregular in the definition of its boundary. The pitch comes out in various places on the declivity of the ravines, which intersect the district; and it is occasionally worked in such situations, but more frequently by shafts sunk down from the surface. I could not satisfactorily learn, whether it was to be regarded as originally one continuous bed, or as an assemblage of smaller deposits of the mineral; but I should conceive the former opinion as the most probable one. The pitch is covered only by a loose deposit of calcareous earth and clay, by beds of shale, &c. the thickness of which is various in different places.

Placed in the noose of a rope, and let down by a windlass, I descended into one of the shafts, about half a mile from the village. The depth of this shaft, from the surface, did not exceed 40 feet, nearly 30 feet of which were cut through the bed of pitch. At this point, while still having a floor of the solid mineral, the workmen had begun to tunnel in an horizontal direction; but the mine was of recent origin, and the workings had yet advanced only a few feet from the shaft. I could not place perfect reliance on the statements of the priest, or the miners who attended me; but it was their information, that the bed of pitch had, in many places, three times the thickness of the actual workings in the mine where I descended; which would make it amount to 70 or 80 feet. It was further stated to me, that in some of the former mines, now filled with water, the horizontal workings had been carried to a distance of nearly 100 paces in different directions from the shaft. In fact, it seems that they are generally continued, with one or more shafts, till the water comes in, and compels the miners to change their place of working. This is the principal obstacle they have to encounter; one, which the state of the mechanical arts in this country has yet done nothing to remove.

The compact mineral pitch or asphaltum, of Selenitza, has the usual characters of this substance, in its state of greatest purity. The colour approaches to perfect black, with a resinous lustre;

the fracture is conchoidal; it is slightly brittle; the specific gravity 1.4 or 1.5. It becomes viscid, or nearly fluid, when heated; and burns with a flame of considerable brightness. I did not remark much difference of external quality at the various depths of the shaft, by which I descended. It has been unnecessary to make an analysis of the mineral, as it is found here, this having already been done by Klaproth; the results of whose accurate examination are given below. *

The property of the pitch-mines, as of all other mines in Turkey, is nominally vested in the Grand Signor; and it was told me that Ali Pasha paid to the Porte, 10,000 piastres per annum, as a rent, or composition for their actual possession. This sum is doubtless small in relation to the present value of the mines; still smaller in its proportion to their capability of being extended and rendered more profitable. The extent of the pitch formation, which may possibly much exceed what I have ventured to surmise; the great thickness of the deposit; and the convenience, in various respects, of the situation, give a possible commercial value to the mines of Selenitza, doubtless much exceeding that which now belongs to them. The exact

* This analysis of the Albanian, or Avlona mineral pitch, is given in Klaproth's Analytical Essays, vol. ii. p. 253. He found 100 grains of the mineral to yield 36 cubic inches of carburetted hydrogen, 32 grains of bituminous oil, 6 grains of water, slightly impregnated with ammonia, 30 grains of charcoal, 7½ grains of silex, 4½ grains of alumine, 1¼ grains of oxide of iron, with very minute traces of lime, and manganese.

amount of the present export I could not learn; but it was stated to me generally, that six or seven large cargoes were annually sent from Avlona; chiefly to Malta, and different ports on the Italian coast. The carriage to Avlona is performed by horses, at the expence of one para per oke, or about a shilling per cwt. Were the mines placed under a more enlightened scheme of management, the nature of the intervening country would doubtless allow of more economical means of transport.

The machinery employed about the shafts of these mines is of the simplest kind, consisting merely of ropes, windlasses, and wicker-baskets. The miners are paid according to the number of okes of the mineral, which they may severally obtain. When at the bottom of the shaft, and wishing to re-ascend, I was refused by these people, until I had paid them a small sum of money; a practical joke not confined to the miners of Selenitza.

It seems certain that the ancients were acquainted with this deposit of pitch, though it does not appear equally clear that the mineral was formerly worked with economical views. Strabo speaks of a place called Nymphæum, in the country of the Apolloniates, where there was a rock yielding fire, from below which issued fountains of asphaltum. * Though we find in Cæsar the mention of a port of Nymphæum, on the coast to the north

* Lib. vii. 487

of the Apsus *, there can be little doubt that the Nymphæum of Strabo was the pitch formation on the banks of the Viosa; an opinion confirmed by the testimony of other writers, as to the phenomena which occur on the spot. Plutarch, in his life of Sylla, mentions a remarkable place called Nymphæum, near Apollonia, where the ground had an extraordinary verdure, though giving rise to springs, from which fire continually issued. Dio Cassius is more minute in his account of this place; where, according to his narrative, much fire was given out, without its either extending to the neighbouring lands, or parching up those on which it actually appeared. † He further mentions that the effusion of flame was increased by rain; that the spot was called Nymphæum; and that there was an oracle here, which gave responses on all subjects but those of death or marriage, on which it was not permitted to consult it. Frankincense was thrown upon the flame; if consumed, the vow was accepted; if not consumed, the oracle was considered unpropitious.

It became an interesting object to seek the present traces of natural phenomena and superstitions, belonging to so remote an age; and I was fortunate in being able distinctly to discover them on the spot. In two or three different places, in the vicinity of the pitch-mines, I found an inflammable

* Bell. Civ. lib. iii.

† Dion. Hist. xli. 195. By this historian, Nymphæum is described as on the banks of the Anas, or Aias, which is the name given by Scylax to the Aous, the modern Viosa.

gas issuing from the ground, which easily took fire and spread a flame to some extent over the surface. The most remarkable of these places was about half a mile from the shaft, where I had descended; on the declivity towards a narrow valley or ravine. A small space of ground, fifteen or twenty yards in circumference, shewed a surface denuded of vegetation, and covered with stones or earth, apparently decomposed by sulphureous vapours. This surface I found to be very sensibly heated; though, having lost my thermometer, I was unable to ascertain its real temperature. On one part of it, a streamlet of water issued from the ground, forming in its egress a little basin, through which rose a vast number of air-bubbles. With this gas, which I immediately conjectured, from its situation and other circumstances, to be carburetted hydrogen, I filled a large glass; and applying a light, which Constantine procured by the friction of two pieces of wood, it was instantly inflamed, and burnt with considerable vividness. After this experiment, which greatly astonished my Albanian guards, I set fire to the bubbles coming through the water. The flame not only continued by the constant exit of the gas; but spread in different directions, from the quantity of air issuing out of crevices in the ground; and when I left the place, it had already extended over a very considerable surface. This circumstance, as I was assured by the miners, often occurs from natural causes, especially after heavy

rains; the gas, once inflamed, frequently continuing to burn for several weeks in succession. *

This remarkable coincidence with the ancient history of the spot was rendered more striking, by the observation of several sculptured marbles lying upon the ground, within thirty yards of the place whence the gas issues. One of these marbles appeared as if it had been a cistern; but its position in the ground was such as to render it difficult to ascertain the fact. Though unable to find any inscription which might afford decisive testimony; yet the situation of these marbles renders it more than probable that they had relation to the ancient oracle of Nymphæum, which existed in this place; and from the nature of the ground, I think it probable that excavation might disclose other evidences to the same effect. These distinct illustrations of mythology, afforded by the permanence of natural phenomena, were extremely interesting to me. They may indeed be reckoned among the peculiar gratifications of the traveller in Greece. †

* Phenomena, similar to those of the inflammable spring at Nymphæum, occur at Pietra Mala among the Apennines, in the route between Bologna and Florence.

† It appears that Nymphæum was the name of several other places of antiquity, where there were bituminous springs, connected with religious observances. Strabo mentions a Nymphæum in Athamania, where a temple of the Nymphs stood in the vicinity of certain springs of this kind. Bryant, in accordance with his theory of Greek mythology, has derived the words Nymphæum, Nymph, Naptha, &c. from *Ain-Omphi*, signifying the fountains of the oracle, or of the deity of fire.

The production of carburetted hydrogen in the vicinity of a deposit of mineral pitch, and the greater abundance of this gas after rains, are facts which admit of an easy explanation. It would seem from the local appearances, that a minute portion of sulphur is extricated at the same time, possibly in the form of sulphuretted hydrogen. The phenomena, which I formerly noticed as having occurred near the lake of Zerovina, and in the district of Charamoutates, are probably analogous to those of Selenitza; and it is not impossible that there may be local deposits of pitch, of greater or less extent, in these situations. I do not here enter into the speculation as to the origin of this mineral, whether vegetable or otherwise; as I did not at Selenitza remark any circumstance that could throw new light upon this subject.

From the mines of Selenitza I directed my route a second time to Carbonara, which is only a few miles further up the Viosa. Here I left one of my guards to renew in this vicinity the search after the package I had lost; while with the remainder I took the direct road along the river to Tepeleni, where I arrived the evening of the following day. I do not weary the reader with any details of a route which has already been described. At Tepeleni, though with some inconvenience, I deviated from it, to make a short excursion up the valley of the Bentza, and to the summit of a part of the mountain-chain of Argenik; induced to do this by the report of there being metallic ores at a certain

place in the vicinity, and by my wish to satisfy the earnest enquiries of Ali Pasha on this subject. The excursion in this respect proved to be wholly fruitless. The spot to which I was conducted, after a long and laborious ascent of the mountains, shewed no appearance of such ores; nor was it probable from the character of the limestone rock of Argenik, or the particular situation of the place, that they should occur here. My excursion, however, was in part rewarded by the wild magnificence of the mountain scenery through which the Bentza flows to join the Viosa.

From Tepeleni I continued my journey without further interruption to Ioannina, where I arrived on the evening of the third day. The only deviation I made from my former route was in leaving Argyro-Kastro to the west, and skirting along the declivity of the mountains which form the eastern boundary of this great valley. In pursuing the road, I passed the Khan of Valiera, where the Gardikiotes had been massacred twelve months before, and saw there the melancholy spectacle which was described in the preceding chapter. From the Khan I ascended very far up the mountains, which here are probably more than 3000 feet in height, to the monastery of Spilio, where I passed the night. This place has its name from some extensive caverns, partly natural, partly artificial, which occur in a limestone cliff that overhangs the monastery. One of these caves, about forty feet above the base of the cliff, has been fitted up

as a chapel, approachable only by a ladder attached to the rock. The situation of the monastery itself is very remarkable, at a vast height above the valley of Argyro-Kastro, and almost directly underneath the great precipices which form the summit of the ridge. Though now the 24th of March, the snow was still lying in large quantity at the foot of these precipices, at the distance of but a few hundred feet above the monastery. There are said to be many wolves on the mountains bounding the valley of Argyro-Kastro, which inflict much mischief on the flocks in this district.

Two miles to the south of Spilio, and immediately opposite Argyro-Kastro, are the vestiges of an ancient city; consisting merely of Cyclopian walls, which follow the circuit of an irregular tabular hill, one of the secondary eminences on the declivity of the great mountain-chain above. A peasant whom I found among the ruins, shewed me a few coins which he said had been picked up on the spot, — but they were of the Roman emperors, and indicated nothing as to the ancient name or condition of the place.

On the declivity of these mountains are numerous large villages, remarkably picturesque in their situation among woods and orchards, and exhibiting more neatness and comfort than are usually found in the villages of Albania. In those called Cesarades and Taxarades, the habitations are large and well built; and the dress of the inhabitants, especially of the females, has a picturesque and agreeable

appearance, from the red cotton stuffs, of which it is in great part composed. I was told that one or two of these villages had been formed by emigrants from Constantinople; who, in this place, pursue with industry their original occupation, as the artizans of embroidery and ornamented stuffs; still retaining their connections in business with the capital of Turkey.

I arrived at Ioannina on the evening of the 25th of March, and resumed my former abode there; until the arrival of Mr. G. Foresti, the British resident, who at this time was daily expected from the Ionian Isles.

CHAP. XXV.

THIRD RESIDENCE AT IOANNINA. — INTERVIEWS WITH ALI PASHA. — DEPARTURE FOR PREVESA AND ZANTE. — CONCLUSION.

In returning to Ioannina from my northern journey, I had proposed to remain there very few days; but the solicitation of the Vizier, and the anxiety to recover my papers, if it were yet possible, detained me more than a fortnight. During this time I made almost daily visits to Ali Pasha; and occasionally twice a day, at a time, when he was slightly indisposed. In the first interview with him, after my return, he shewed the same interest as before in the detail of my journey, and asked numerous questions on the subject. The one upon which he dwelt most repeatedly was, whether I had discovered any precious metals in my route, either in the ground, or among the ruins I had visited. I explained to him the improbability, from the nature of the rocks in Albania, that gold or silver should be found here, and the equal improbability that there should be concealed treasures among any of these ruins. It did not seem that he was perfectly convinced on this point, since both now and afterwards he repeated the question, shewing me at the same time a jar containing two or three hundred coins of the

Roman emperors, which had been found in his recent excavations at Nicopolis. He asked in particular with great earnestness about the inscription on the rock at Gradista, which he thought might afford a clue to some hidden treasures. I endeavoured to turn a conversation, on which I could not satisfy him, by speaking of the pitch mines, and proposing certain improvements which might extend their value, and render more economical the mode of working them. From some motive or other he did not appear to take interest in this subject, but shifted it back again, as soon as possible, to the more favourite one just referred to.

He asked my opinion of the Albanians whom I had seen in different districts, and particularly respecting those in the country about Tepeleni; giving me at the same time several remarkable anecdotes illustrative of their attachment to his person. He afterwards alluded to my visit to the deserted city of Gardiki, and to the Khan of Valiera, as if to enquire what were my feelings on the subject of this massacre; accompanying his question with a singular expression of countenance, and a sort of hoarse, suppressed laugh, not unusual to him, but which was more than usually remarkable in this instance. An article he had seen in the French papers, narrating this event in terms of severe reprobation, had made him already, in some degree, aware of the sentiments with which Europeans would regard it. Perceiving, probably, this sentiment in the tone with which I answered him, he

asked whether I had read the inscription placed upon the wall of the Khan. I contented myself by simply replying, that, from its position, I had been unable to peruse the tablet, but that I understood the nature of its contents. He again looked at me with the same singular expression of countenance, in which remorse certainly bore no part. The conversation abruptly ended, and he never again recurred to this subject.

At a subsequent interview, he expressed his desire to know what I thought of his son Sali Bey. After giving a favourable opinion of the boy's talents, which was obviously gratifying to him, I mentioned the advantage he might derive from travelling for a short time in Europe. The Vizier immediately replied that his ideas were the same, and that he had already determined upon his son's leaving Albania, when sixteen years of age, to travel for four or five years. He added, that he designed to send him first to Morocco to spend a year there; afterwards to England; thence to France, Germany, and Russia; and finally to Constantinople, and some of the Turkish cities in Asia. This detail of his plan was given with more correctness of geography than is usual with the limited knowledge of the Turks on this subject. He added, that he hoped I should shew my friendship for himself, in giving assistance to his son, when he visited England.

I spoke to him of the request I had received from the monks of Pollina, that I would procure, if possible, some protection to their monastery. He

acceded at once to my wishes on the subject, and immediately ordered a mandate to be drawn out, which, placed in the hands of the monks, might exempt them from the visits of the Albanian soldiery, or other ill-usage. To this mandate he put his signature in my presence, and gave it in charge to my former guard, Martino, who was returning to this part of Albania.

I made the Vizier acquainted with the loss I had sustained in the neighbourhood of Carbonara; of which, however, I judged from his manner that he had been previously well-informed. He professed immediately the intention of sending orders to this district, that the search should be carefully renewed; gave me confident assurance of success; and urged strongly my continuing at Ioannina till his couriers should return. I consented to do this, though almost entirely without hope on the subject. The event proved that I had judged rightly in giving little credit to the expectations held out. *

* The loss of my papers was not the sole misfortune I sustained in my last journey. A diamond ring, which had been entrusted to me to carry to England, was lost out of my dressing-case. My suspicion fell on my Greek servant, who alone could have had access to it; and this suspicion was renewed at Ioannina, when a valuable gold repeater, belonging to Mr. G. Foresti, was missed under circumstances which again involved his credit. Nothing, however, could be discovered at the time, though a search into his luggage was made at Salaora; but some months afterwards, by a singular train of circumstances, both the watch and ring were discovered among his bed clothes, by two English gentlemen with whom he was then travelling as a servant. It was satisfactory to me to see the watch again at Vienna, in the possession of Mr. Foresti.

During my present stay at Ioannina, I was much occupied in a medical capacity, both among the Turkish and Greek families of the city. Among other patients, on whom I attended at this time, was Yusuf Aga, the old Moor of Tepeleni; who, coming to Ioannina on some business with the Vizier, had been attacked, during the latter part of his journey, with pleuritic symptoms of much violence. I visited him at the desire of Ali Pásha, together with two of the physicians of the Vizier; but this was just before my departure, and his recovery was still uncertain when I quitted Ioannina.

I saw Ali Pasha, for the last time, on the evening of the 7th of April; my departure, notwithstanding many remonstrances on his part, having been fixed for the following morning. I found him at this time holding a sort of council with four of his principal Turkish ministers, who were sitting on the floor before him, and who, when I entered, retired into an adjoining apartment. The Vizier received me with peculiar kindness of manner; said, that he should rely upon my not forgetting him, and should still hope for my return to Ioannina at some future time. He desired that I would write to him whenever an occasion was afforded, and give him further advice about his health. He enquired respecting my family, and told me to salute them on his behalf. Unwilling to protract this interview, I speedily rose to depart; certainly not without a sentiment of regret in leaving a man, who, whatever

be his habits as the despotic ruler of a half-civilized people, had interested me greatly by his talents, by his conversation, and by the uniform courtesy and kindness with which he had treated me, during my several visits to his court. A sentiment, derived from sources of this kind, may be admitted, notwithstanding much that comes in counteraction of it from the moral qualities of the mind. When I rose from the couch to make my adieu, the Vizier rose also, and advancing towards the middle of the apartment with me, kissed each cheek in bidding me farewell. This finished, I quitted, for the last time, the Seraglio of Ali Pasha.

I left Ioannina early the following morning; unwillingly at the time, although for some days preceding I had been dissatisfied with the delays thrown in my way, and had become very anxious to hasten my return to the Isles. But it is difficult not to feel emotion in quitting a place, when there is a certainty before the mind of never seeing it again. I had felt such in leaving the shores of Iceland; and it was natural that it should occur, when looking back for the last time on the plains, the lake, the minarets, and the palaces of Ioannina.

I travelled to Salaora in one of the Vizier's carriages; making this journey in two days, very nearly by the same route I had taken in coming to Ioannina the preceding autumn. From Salaora I went down the gulf to Prevesa, and thence crossed over to the isle of Santa Maura, where I was fortunate

in finding a vessel about to sail for Zante. It was an additional satisfaction that the course of this voyage enabled me to visit Ithaca a second time, and to examine several objects which I had neglected in my first excursion to this isle.

At this place it is necessary to take leave of the reader who may have followed me thus far in the narrative of my travels. To describe my returning voyage down the Mediterranean, or a journey I afterwards made across Spain from Valencia to Biscay, would be to increase the size of these volumes by topics which are already familiar to the public, or will doubtless become so from more accurate sources of information. For the reasons given in the Preface, I have confined myself, as far as possible, to those districts of country which are at present least known by the description of the traveller; and though in several respects, — particularly as to what regards the character and situation of the modern Greeks, — I feel myself to be superseded by other writers, yet I would willingly hope that the subject of Greece has not lost all its interest, even amidst the details which have been afforded by the accurate examination of later years. The mine of discovery in this interesting country cannot yet be considered as closed. Olympia, Delphi, Corinth, Argos, and Thebes still offer numerous objects of research; and the fortunate result of recent undertakings of this kind affords an ample encouragement for the future.

The portions of Greece to which I have chiefly directed the attention of the reader, are certainly not the most interesting in reference to ancient history, or ancient arts. Nevertheless it will be remarked, that they furnish many valuable illustrations of antiquity; and still further, that they form at this time an object of no mean importance in relation to the political state of Europe. The sudden creation of an active and absolute power in this country, forming a single force out of many parts that before were separate, is well deserving of attention, both in its present character, and in its influence on the future condition of Greece. It directs the view to a period, possibly not remote, when a still more active and intelligent authority may sway this part of Europe; and exercise an influence upon the balance of its other parts, much more important than can be derived from the impotent mass of the Turkish empire.

Of late years the Greeks, considering them in their whole extent as a people, have been making progress in population, in commerce, in education, and literature; and above all, as it would seem, in that independent consciousness of power, which is necessary as a step to their future liberation. From what source this liberation is likely to arise, it would be too much to presume, where the fact itself is still of doubtful occurrence. The traveller in Greece, noticing those particular vices of character which are always the consequence of sla-

very, and contrasting them with the temper of the ancient Greeks, might be apt to believe that their regeneration was impossible, and that political change in this country would be but the transference of submission.

To such an opinion I cannot, from my own observation, give assent. I certainly am far from believing that the ancient Greeks, with all their peculiarities of national spirit and usage, will be revived in the people who now inhabit this country. The race has undergone many changes;—the condition of the surrounding world still more. But this belief is by no means necessary to the question; and it still remains a matter of interesting speculation, whether a nation may not be created in this part of Europe, either through its own or foreign efforts, which may be capable of bearing a part in the affairs and events of the civilized world. Were the question proposed to me as one of probability, I should be disposed to answer in the affirmative. The further question as to consequences, is too remote, as well as too extensive, to allow me to enter into its discussion.

APPENDIX.

No. I.

Account of Major Du Bosset's Discoveries, extracted from the Romaic Newspaper, published at Zante. See page 56. Vol. I.

Ζακυνθ.

Εἰς τὰς πρώτας τοῦ παρελθόντος μηνος Ε. Ν. ὁ Διοικητὴς τῆς Κεφαλληνίας Κύριος Μαγγιὸρ Δεβοσσὲτ ἀνέσκαψε κἄποια μέρη ἰρία μίλλια μακρὰν ἀπὸ τὴν περιοχὴν τῆς Σκάλλας, κατὰ ἀνατολὰς τῆς νήσου, καὶ ὄχι τόσον μακρὰν ἀπὸ τὸ παραθαλάσσιον. εὕρηκε λοιπὸν σκάπιωνίας τὰ θεμέλια ἑνος παλαιου ναου κατεσκευασμένου καὶα ἴην ἰεχνην ἰῶν Δωριέων. καὶ τελείως αγνωρίσθη ἕως τώρα, ἐπειδὴ ἦτον διολου χωσμένος μέσα εἰς τὴν γῆν. ὁ καιρὸς, καὶ ἡ αἶνοια εἶιναν αιτία νὰ φθαρῶσι τελειως τὰ λειψανα αὐτοῦ τοῦ ναοῦ. μόνοι μερικοὶ στέλεχοι σύλων ἔμειναν σῴοι ἀπὸ ἴην φθορὰν μὲ ἰὸ νὰ τοὺς εἶχαν βαλμένους εἰς τὴν οἰκοδομὴν μιᾶς μικρᾶς ἐκκλησίας ρωμαϊκῆς, τὴν ὁποίαν εἶχαν κτίσῃ ἐπάνω εἰς ἕνα μέρος αὐτῶν τῶν θεμελίων καὶ ἡ ὁποία ἦτον ἕ α ἐρείπιον. ἐκρήμνισε λοιπὸν τὰ μικρὰ λείψανα τοῦ τείχους της, ἔλαβε σῶα ἐκεῖνα τὰ κομμάτια τῶν σύλων, καὶ ἐδυνήθη μὲ αὐτὸν ἰὸν ἰρόπον νὰ μετρήσῃ τὰ θεμελια τοῦ ναοῦ, ὁ ὁποῖος ἀποδεικνύεται ὅτι ἦτον, κατὰ μὲν τὸ μάκρος 113 ποδῶν Ἀγγλικῶν, κατὰ δὲ τὸ πλατος 43.

Τὸ ἐσωτερικὸν αὐτῆ τῆ ναῆ εἶναι διῃρημένον εἰς πέντε μέρη. εἰς τὸ πλατύτερον ἀπὸ αὐτὰ τὰ μέρη εὑρέθη τὸ ὑποπόδιον, ἐπάνω εἰς τὸ ὁποῖον φαίνεται, ὅτι ἐπεζηρίζετο ἕνα Ἄγαλμα ἐκ μαρμαρυ τῆ θεῆ, ὁ ὁποῖος ἐκεῖ ἐλατρέυετο. ἐὰν κρίνωμεν περὶ τύτυ τῆ ἀγάλματος ἀπὸ τὰς συνεῤῥιμμένας βραχίονας καὶ πόδας, ὁπῆ ἐκεῖ ηὑρέθησαν, αὐτὸ φαίνεται, ὅτι εἶχεν ἕνα μέγεθος μεῖριον καὶ φυσικόν. εὑρέθησαν παρομοίως ἐκεῖ ἕνας γελεκος μαρμαρένιος ἑνὸς μικροτά τυ αγάλματος μιᾶς γυναικὸς, διαφοραι κεφαλαὶ λεόντων, δύω ἐπιςύλια, μερικά κεραμύδια κεντισμένα μὲ διάφορα σχήματα ἀνθέων, καὶ διάφορα ἄλλα ἀναγκαία γολίδια ἴῆ ναῆ ἐκ σιδήρυ καὶ χαλκῆ, καθὼς ἀκόμι καὶ μερικὰ νομίσματα τῶν Αὐτοκρατόρων τῆς Κωνσαντινυπόλεως. ὁ ναὸς αὐτὸς ἦτον περικυκλωμένος ἀπὸ μίαν γοάν.

Ἀκολυθῶν λοιπὸν νὰ σκάπτῃ καὶ πλησίον εἰς τὰ ἐρείπια τῆ παλαιῆ τείχυς τῆ Πρόνυ, εὕρηκε πολλὰς γακτοθήκας (κάλπεις) διαφόρων εἰδῶν καὶ ὄγκων. μερικαὶ ἀπὸ αὐτὰς ἦτον κατὰ τὸ ὕψος 4 ἕως 5 ποδῶν, μέ μίαν ἰγύπαν ἀπὸ τὸ ἐπάνω μερος δύω ἥμισυ ποδῶν. τὰ σκέλεθρα, τὰ μικρὰ ἀγγεῖα τὰ διάφορα διὰ καλλωπισμὸν πραγμαῖα ὁπῆ εὑρέθησαν ἐκεῖ, δὲν μᾶς συγχωρῆσι νὰ ἀμφιβάλλωμεν, ὅτι αὐταὶ αἱ κάλπεις δὲν ἐχρησίμευον διὰ μνημεῖα, εις τὰ ὁποία νὰ ἔβαναν σῶα καὶ ὁλόκληρα τὰ νεκρὰ σώματα. αὐταὶ, αἱ ὁποίαι ἦτον ἀπὸ χῶμα αἱ περισσότεραι, καὶ κατεσκευασμέναι ἁπλαὶ καὶ ἀκαλλωπισαι, συντρίβονται μὲ μεγάλην εὐκολίαν εὐθύς ὁπῆ τὰς εὐγάλη τινὰς ἀπὸ τὸ χῶμα ὁπῆ τὰς περιτιλύγει.

Αὐτὴ ἡ ἀνεύρεσις εἶναι περισσότερον ἀπὸ ἰας ἄλλας ἀξιοπερίεργος, ἐπειδὴ ἕνα τοιῆτον εἶδ@ μνημείων, (παλαιόταιον ἀναμφιβύλως) φαίνεται ὅτι δὲν τὸ γνωρίζυσιν οἱ φιλοπερίεργοι τῆς Παλαιότητος. ἀνευρέθησαν πρὸς ἰδίοις καὶ λείψανα ἑνὸς παλαιῆ τείχυς ἀγνωρίσυ παρὰ πᾶσιν εἰς ἐκεῖνα τὰ πέριξ, τὸ ὁποῖον εἶναι πιθανὸν, ὅτι οἱ Σάμιοι τὸ καλεσκέυασαν, (δύω λέγας μακρὰν ἀπὸ τὴν πόλιν) διὰ νὰ διαυθεντέυωσι τὴν διάβασιν τὴν μεταξὺ Σάμυ καὶ Πρόνυ.

No. II.

Account of Mr. Sadler's Ascent in his Balloon from Dublin, extracted from the same Romaic Newspaper.

Ο' περίφημος Α'εροναύτης Κύριος Σάδλερ, ὁ ὁποῖος ἔφθασε νὰ περιτρέξῃ τὸν ἀέρα ἕως 30 φοραῖς, ἀπεφάσισε νὰ ἀπεράσῃ μὲ τὴν ἀεροβατικὴν μηχανήντα ἀπὸ τὴν Ι'ρλάνδαν εἰς τὴν Α'γγλίαν, καὶ νὰ κάμῃ καὶ μίαν διάβασιν ἔπάνω τῆ πελάγης πλέον ἐκτεταμμένην ἀπὸ ἐκείνην ὁπῆ ἔκαμε ὁ Βλάνσαρδ, ὁπόταν διεπέρασε τὸ γενὸν τῆ Καλέ. Ἰᾶτο τὸ τολμηρὸν ἐγχείρημα πρὸ καιρῆ ἤδη γνωςὸν, τῇ 1 τῆ παρελθόντ@ Ο'κτωμβρίη ἐβάλθη εἰς ἐνέργειαν. λοιπὸν περὶ τὴν 1 ὥραν μετὰ τὸ μεσημέριον αὐτός απὸ τὸ ὁσπήτιον (ὀνομαζόμενον βελβεδέρε) πλησίον εἰς τὸ Δαβλῖνον, παρόντων ἐκεῖ ἀπείρων ἀνθρωπων, καὶ κροτάντων τὰς χείρας, ἀνυψώθη εἰς τὸν ἀέρα. ὁ ἄνεμ@ ἐφυσᾶσεν ἐκείνην τὴν ὥραν ἀπὸ τὸ μέρος τὸ Μεσημβρινοδυτικὸν, καὶ τὸν ἐπήγαινεν ἐπάνω εἰς τὰ παραθαλάσσια τῆς Α'γγλίας 80 μίλλια μακράν. μετὰ τὸν μισευμόντα 35 λεπτὰ, αὐτὸς ἐγνώρισε τὰ ὄνηα τα Γαλλες. ἕως τὰς τρεῖς ὥρας ἐκράτησε τὸν αὐτον δρόμον, καὶ ἐπειδὴ ὁ ἄνεμ@ ἦτον ὀλίγον δυνατὸς, εὑρέθη σχεδὸν ἐπάνω εἰς τὴν νῆσον Μὰν, καὶ ἐκατάλαβεν, ὅτι ἐπλησιαζε πολλὰ εἰς τὰ παραθαλάσσια τῆ Γαλλες. περὶ τὰς 4 ὥρας εἶδε καθαρὰ τὸ φανὰρι τῆ Σκέρη, τὸ ὁποῖον τὸν ἔκαμε νὰ ἐλπίσῃ, ὅτι ὀγλίγωρα μέλλει νὰ φθάσῃ εἰς τὸ ἐπιθυμητὸν τέλ@ τῆ ταξειδίη τα δηλ: εἰς τὸ Λιθερπώλ. ὁ ἄνεμ@ ὅμως ἄλλαξε τότε, καὶ τὸν ἔφερεν εἰς ἕνα ἄλλον δρόμον, διὰ τὸ ὁποῖον ἔχασε πλέον απ' ἐμπρὸς τὴν γῆν. ἀφ' ᾧ λοιπὸν περιέπλευσεν ἐπάνω εἰς τὸν ἀέρα ἱκανὴν ὥραν ἀβεβαι@ καὶ χωρὶς νὰ ἠξεύρῃ, πῆ εὑρίσκεται, εἶδε μέσα εἰς τὸν Πορθμὸν πέντε Καραβια, ὁπῆ ἔπλεον μὲ ἀνοικτὰ πανία. ςοχαζόμεν@ λοιπὸν νὰ εὕρῃ ἀπὸ αὐτὰ βοήθειαν, ἀπεφάσισε τότε ὅσον ἦτον δυνατὸν τὸ ὀγλιγωρότερον νὰ καταβῇ, καὶ διὰ τὲτο ἐκρημνίσθε μὲ ὁρμὴν μέσα

εἰς τὸ πέλαγος. βλέπωντας, ὅτι κἀνένα ἀπὸ τὰ εἰρημένα καράβια δὲν ἐλάμβανε κἀμμίαν προσοχὴν περὶ τούτου, ὅσις εὑρίσκετο εἰς μίαν ἀθλιωτάτην κατάσασιν, ἐλυπήθη ἕως θανάτου, καὶ κατηναγκάσθη νὰ ἀνυψωθῇ πάλιν εἰς τὸν ἀέρα. ἀπέταξεν εἰς τὴν θάλασσαν ἕνα ἀρκετὸν μέρος σαβούρας, καὶ ἀφ' ὅ τι ἐπέτυχεν ηὐθὺς νὰ ἀναβῇ πάλιν εἰς τὸν ἀέρα, ἔπασχε νὰ ξανοίξῃ κἀμμίαν βοηθειαν. ἀπέρασεν ὅμως πολὺς καιρὸς χωρὶς νὰ ἠμπορέσῃ νὰ ἰδῇ τὸ ἀδέν. τέλος πάντων ἔλαβε τὴν χαρὰν νὰ ξανοίξῃ καὶ νὰ ἰδῇ εἰς τὴν θάλασσαν ἕνα Καράβι, ἀπὸ τὸ ὁποῖον οἱ ἄν οι τοῦ ἔδιδαν νὰ καταλάβῃ διὰ μέσου τῶν σημείων, ὅτι ἦτον ἕτοιμοι νὰ τὸν βοηθήσωσιν, ἀλλὰ ποτὲ δὲν ἠμπόρεσαν νὰ τὸν πλησιάσωσιν. εἰς ἐκεῖνο τὸ μεταξὺ ἐξάνοιξεν ἀκόμι ἄλλα δύω Καράβια, ἀπὸ τὰ ὁποῖα τὸ ἕνα ἔχρεψε καὶ ἄλλαξε τὸν δρόμοντου. τότε ὁ Κύριος Σάδλερ ἀποφάσισε πάλιν νὰ ἀφήσῃ τὴν ἀεροβατικὴν μηχανήντου νὰ πέσῃ μέσα εἰς τὸ πέλαγος, ὄντας βέβαιος, ὅτι θέλει τὸν βοηθήσουν. ὁπόταν ἡ βαρκέλα τῆς ἀεροβατικῆς μηχανῆς ἔφθασεν ἐπάνω εἰς τὸ πέλαγος, ὁ ἄνεμος ἐφυσοῦσε μὲ τόσην ὁρμὴν ἐπάνω εἰς τὴν μηχανὴν, καὶ τὴν παρέσυρνε μὲ τόσην ταχύτητα ἐπάνω εἰς τὸ πέλαγος, ὥστε ὁπού τὸ Καράβι τὸ ὁποῖον ἦτον πλέον συμμὰ δὲν ἠμποροῦσε νὰ τὴν φθάσῃ. ὁ Κύριος Σάδλερ διὰ νὰ κάμῃ ἄργον τὸ τρέξιμον τῆς μηχανῆς, ἀπέταξεν εἰς τὸ πέλαγος τὴν ἄγκυράν του, καὶ ἄφησε τὸν φλογιστικὸν ἀέρα [τὸ Γὰς] νὰ ἐξαλμησθῇ. αὐτὴν τὴν ὥραν ἡ βαρκέλα ἐβυθίσθη μέσα εἰς τὸ πέλαγος, καὶ δὲν τοῦ ἔμεινε κἀνένα ἄλλο μέσον βοηθείας παρὰ τὸ νὰ κρατῆται σφιχτὰ ἀπὸ τὰ δύκτια τῆς μηχανῆς. μία τοιαύτη ἐπικινδυνος κατασασις ἐμποδιζε καὶ τοὺς ναύτας νὰ τὴν λύσωσι καὶ νὰ τὴν πλησιάσωσι τελείως, ἐπειδὴ ἐφοβοῦντο μήπως ἐμπερδευθῶσι καὶ αὐτοὶ εἰς τὰ σχοινία καὶ δεσίματα τῆς μηχανῆς.

Ἐφώναξε τότε πρὸς αὐτοὺς νὰ διευθύνουν τὴν πρώραντους ἐπάνω εἰς τὴν μηχανὴν, καὶ μὲ αὐτὴν νὰ τὴν σώσουν, τὸ ὁποῖον τὸ ἔκαμαν. εἰς τὸν ἴδιον καιρὸν τοῦ ἔρριψαν ἕνα σχοινίον, ἀπὸ τὸ ὁποῖον ἐπιάσθη, καὶ ἔλαβε τὴν δύναμιν νὰ τὸ περιτιλύξῃ σφιχτὰ εἰς τὰς χείρας του. τοιουτοτρόπως λοιπὸν χρεια ἦτον νὰ τὸν σύρωσι διὰ πολλῆν ὥραν πρὸ τοῦ νὰ τὸν ἐμβάσωσι μέσα εἰς τὴν Βάρκαν, εἰς

τὴν ὁσοίαν, τέλος πάντων, τὸν ἐτράβιξαν ἐξερημένον τελείως ἀπὸ τὰς φυσικάς δυνάμεις. ἐκεῖνο τὸ ξύλον ἦτον μία Βάρκα ἀπὸ τὴν Νῆσον Μὰν, ἀπὸ ἐκείνας δηλ: ὁπῦ ψαρεύυσι τὺς σκυράντζυς. εἰς τοιαύτην κατάσασιν τὸν ἔφεραν εἰς τὸ Λιβερπώλ. ἀλλὰ βλέπωντας τὸ πλῆθος τῶν θεατῶν, ὁπὺ τὸν ἐπρόσμενον, καὶ ὤντας ὅλ@ βρεγμέν@ καὶ καταξεσχιμέν@ ἐδιώρισε τὸν Καραβοκύρην νὰ τὸν πηγαίνῃ ἐπάνω εἰς τὺν Φριγάταν τὴν ὀνομαζομένην Πριντζέσσαν, τῆς ὁποίας ὁ ἐξυσιαςὴς τὸν ἐδέχθη μὲ ξεχωρισὴν φιλοφροσύνην, καὶ τῦ ἔδωκεν ὅλην τήν ἀναψυχὴν, ὁ ὁποία ἦτον ἀναγκαία εἰς τὴν τοιαὐτηντυ κατάσασιν. μετὰ τῦτο ὁ Κύριος Σάδλερ ἐπέσρεψεν εἰς τὸ Δυβλῖνον.

No. III.

Account of the Opening of the Session of Parliament in December, 1812; from the Zante Ephemeris.

Λόνδρα 30 Δεκεμβρίυ.

Εἴσοδος τῦ Πρίγκιπος Διοικητῦ εἰς τὸ Παρλαμέντον.

Σήμερον τὸ μεσημέρι ὁ Πρίγκιψ Διοικητὴς ἀπὸ τὸ Καλτὸν Χάυς ἔφθασεν εἰς τὸ Παλάτιον τῦ Σὰν Γιάμες, ὅθεν εὐγῆκεν εἰς τὴν μίαν ὥραν μὲ τῆς τάξεως τὴν συνήθη ἅμαξαν τῆς Α. Μ. διὰ νὰ ὑπάγῃ εἰς τὸ Παρλαμέντον. οἱ ὀνομαζόμενοι, Βασιλικοὶ Γαλαζοφόροι, ἐπειδὴ δὲν ἦτον παρόντες οἱ Σωματοφύλακες, ἔκαμαν αὐτοὶ τὰ καθήκοντα τῆς φρυρᾶς τῆς Βασιλικῆς. τὸ δέκατον Τάγμα τῶν Οὐσσάρων ἐσύνθετε τὰς παρατάξεις εἰς τὰς ὁδὺς καὶ εἰς τὸ περιτείχισμα τῦ Παλατίυ.

Η' Καθέδρα τῆς Α. Β. Υ. τῆς Πριγκιπέσσης Καρλότας τῦ Γάλλες ἦτον προετοιμασμένη ἀμέσως μετὰ τὸν θρόνον.

Ο' Πρίγκιψ Διοικητὴς ἦτον ἐνδεδυμένος Βασιλικῶς, καὶ ἐπαῤῥησιάζετο ὡς ἡ Α. Μ., ἔχωντας βαθμὸν ἀνώτερον ἀπὸ τὸν Πρίγκιπα τῦ Γάλλες καὶ κατώτερον ἀπὸ τῦ Βασιλέως. τὸ Β. Υ. τυ ἐφορῦσεν ἕνα καπέλλον λυγισμένον εἰς ἕνα μέρος. τὸ διάδημα τὸ Βασιλικὸν τῦ Πρίγκιπος τῦ Γάλλες, τὸ σπαθὶ τῆς ἐπικρατείας, καὶ ὁ μικρὸς πῖλος [τὸ σκυφάκι] ἐπροπορεύθησαν μετὰ πομπῆς προτήτερα ἀπὸ τὸν Πρίγκιπα.

Τό Β. Υ. τυ ἀφ' ὗ εἰσῆλθε μὲ τὰς συνήθεις δεξιώσεις καὶ τάξεις εἰς τὸ Παρλαμέντον, καθημενῷ ἐπὶ θρόνυ ἐπρόφερε τὴν ἀκόλυθον ὁμιλίαν.

Μιλόρδοι, καὶ Εὐγενεῖς.

Μὲ ἄκραν καὶ μεγάλην μυ δυσαρέσκειαν πρέπει νὰ σᾶς εἰδοποιήσω εἰς τὴν παρύσαν συνέλευσιν, ὅτι ἡ ἀσθένεια τῆς Α. Μ. ἀκολυθεῖ τὸν κάκιστον χαρακτῆρα της, καὶ τὰς μικρὰς ἐλπίδας, τὰς ὁποίας εἶχα διὰ νὰ ἀναλάβῃ ἡ Α. Μ. τὴν ὑγείαν τυ, &c. &c.

No. IV.

Catalogue of officinal Plants growing in the Isle of Cephalonia. See page 61. Vol. I.

MONANDRIA.

Monogynia.

Salicornia *herbacea.*

DIANDRIA.

Monogynia.

Jasminum *officinale.*
Olea *Europæa.*
Veronica *officinalis.*
Veronica *Beccabunga.*
Rosmarinus *officinalis.*
Salvia *officinalis.*
Salvia *pomifera.*
Gratiola *officinalis.*

TRIANDRIA.

Monogynia.

Iris *germanica.*

Digynia.

Triticum *repens.*

TETRANDRIA.

Monogynia.

Scabiosa *succisa.*
Scabiosa *arvensis.*
Galium *verum.*
Rubia *tinctorum.*
Plantago *major.*
Plantago *cynops.*

Digynia.

Cuscuta *Europæa.*

PENTANDRIA.

Monogynia.

Anchusa *officinalis.*
Cynoglossum *officinale.*
Pulmonaria *officinalis.*
Symphytum *officinale.*
Borago *officinalis.*
Primula veris, — a *officinalis.*
Cyclamen *Europæum.*
Lonicera *periclymenum.*
Verbascum *Thapsus.*
Nicotiana *tabacum.*
Hyoscyamus *niger.*
Solanum *melongena.*
Solanum *nigrum.*
Viola *odorata.*
Viola *tricolor.*
Capsicum *annuum.*
Rhamnus *catharticus.*
Rhamnus *zizyphus.* — Ziziphus *vulgaris? Willd.*
Hedera *Helix.*
Vitis *vinifera.*
β. — *apyrena.*

Digynia.

Asclepias *vincetoxicum.*
Chenopodium *bonus Henricus.*
Beta *vulgaris.*
Beta *Cicla.*
Salsola *sativa.*
Ulmus *campestris.*
Gentiana *Centaurium.*
Daucus *carota.*
Conium *maculatum.*
Peucedanum *officinale.*
Coriandrum *sativum.*
Scandix *odorata.*
Scandix *cerefolium.*
Apium *petroselinum.*
Apium *graveolens.*

Trigynia.

Sambucus *ebulus.*
Sambucus *nigra.*
Tamarix *gallica.*

Pentagynia.

Linum *usitatissimum.*

HEXANDRIA.

Monogynia.

Allium *porrum.*
Allium *sativum.*
Allium *cepa.*
Lilium *candidum.*

Scilla *maritima*.
Asparagus *officinalis*.
Convallaria *majalis*.
Agave *americana*.

Trigynia.

Rumex *patientia*.
Rumex *alpinus*.
Rumex *acutus*.
Rumex *acetosa*.

Tetragynia.

Colchicum *autumnale*.

OCTANDRIA.

Trigynia.

Polygonum *bistorta*.

ENNIANDRIA.

Monogynia.

Laurus *nobilis*.

DECANDRIA.

Monogynia.

Cassia *senna*.
Ruta *graveolens*.
Sedum *palustre*.

Pentagunia.

Sedum *acre*.

DODECANDRIA.

Monogynia.

Portulaca *oleracea*.
Lythrum *salicaria*.

Trigynia.

Reseda *luteola*.

Dodecagynia.

Sempervivum *Tectorum*.

ICOSANDRIA.

Monogynia.

Myrtus *communis*.
Punica *granatum*.
Prunus *padus*.
Prunus *cerasus*.
Amygdalus *communis*.
Amygdalus *persica*.

Pentagynia.

Pyrus *communis*.
Pyrus *cydonia*.

Polygynia.

Rosa *centifolia*.
Rosa *alba*.
Potentilla *anserina*.
Potentilla *reptans*.
Tormentilla *erecta*.

POLYANDRIA.

Monogynia.

Capparis *spinosa*.
Papaver *somniferum*.
Papaver *Rhoeas*.

Digynia.

Pæonia *officinalis*.

Trigynia.

Delphinium *Staphisagria*.

Polygynia.

Anemone *hepatica*.
Anemone *pratensis*.
Clematis *recta*.
Helleborus *niger*.

DIDYNAMIA.

Gymnospermia.

Teucrium *pseudo-chæmepitys*.
Teucrium *scordium*.
Teucrium *chamædrys*.
Hyssopus *officinalis*.
Lavandula *spica*.
Mentha *piperitis*.
Mentha *pulegium*.
Glecoma *hederacea*.
Betonica *officinalis*.
Marrubium *vulgare*.
Origanum *vulgare*.
Origanum *majorana*.
Thymus *vulgaris*.
Melissa *officinalis*.
Ocymum *Basilicum*.

Angiospermia.

Scrophularia *nodosa*.
Vitex *agnus-castus*.

TETRADYNAMIA.

Siliculosa.

Lepidium *sativum*.
Cochlearia *officinalis*.
Cochlearia *armoracia*.

Siliquosa.

Cardamine *pratensis*.
Erysimum *officinale*.
Brassica (multæ species).

Sinapis *nigra.*
Raphanus *sativus.*

MONADELPHIA.

Polyandria.

Althæa *officinalis.*
Malva *rotundifolia.*
Gossypium *herbaceum.*

DIADELPHIA.

Hexandria.

Fumaria *officinalis.*

Decandria.

Genista *tinctoria.*
Ononis *spinosa.*
Glycyrrhiza *glabra.*

POLYADELPHIA.

Icosandria.

Citrus *medica.*
Citrus *aurantium.*

Polyandria.

Hypericum *quadrangulare.*

SYNGENESIA.

Æqualis.

Scorzonera *hispanica.*
Leontodon *taraxacum.*
Cichorium *intybus.*
Atractylis *gummifera.*
Arctium *lappa.*
Cynara *scolymus.*
Carthamus *tinctorius.*

Superflua.

Tanacetum *vulgare.*
Tanacetum *balsamita.* — T. *argenteum?* vel T. *incanum?*
Artemisia *abrotanum.*
Artemisia *absinthium.*
Tussilago *farfara.*
Matricaria *chamomilla.*
Anthemis *nobilis.*

Necessaria.

Calendula *officinalis.*

GYNANDRIA.

Monandria.

Orchis *morio.*

Hexandria.

Aristolochia *rotunda.*

MONOECIA.

Tetrandria.

Urtica *dioica.*
Morus *nigra.*

Polyandria.

Arum *maculatum.*
Betula *alba*
Quercus *cerris.*
Quercus *robur.*

Monadelphia.

Pinus *sylvestris.*
Pinus *abies.*
Cupressus *sempervirens.*
Ricinus *communis.*
Momordica *elaterium.*
Bryonia *alba.*

DIOECIA.

Diandria.

Salix *pentandria.*

Pentandria.

Spinacia *oleracea.*

Hexandria.

Smilax *aspera.*

Enneandria.

Mercurialis *annua*

POLYGAMIA.

Monoecia.

Parietaria *officinalis.*
Atriplex *patula.*

Dioecia.

Ceratonia *siliqua.*

CRYPTOGAMIA.

Filices.

Asplenium *Ceterach.*
Polypodium *Filix major.*

Algæ.

Lichen (*plures species.*)

No. V.

Catalogue of Plants met with in the Environs of Ioannina. See page 141.

MONANDRIA.

Monogynia.

Salicornia *herbacea.*

DIANDRIA.

Monogynia.

Verbena *officinalis.*
Veronica *Beccabunga.*
——— *spicata.*
——— *cordifolia*—V. *agrestis ?*
——— *pseudo-chamædrys*, Jacq.—*latifolia*, Willd.
Lycopus *Europæus.*
Ligustrum *vulgare.*
Jasminum *fruticans.*
Pinguicula *vulgaris.*
Salvia *officinalis.*
Salvia *Horminum.*
—— *sclarea.*

TRIANDRIA.

Monogynia.

Crocus *sylvestris.*
Iris *palustris* — *pseud-Acorus ?* — *germanica.*
Valeriana *officinalis.*
——— *dioica.*

Digynia.

Arundo *lacustris* — *Phragmites ?*
Avena *pratensis.*
—— *flexuosa* — *distichophylla ?*
Cynosurus *inflatus* — *sphærocephalus.*
Dactylis *glomerata.*
Hordeum *murinum.*

TETRANDRIA.

Monogynia.

Aphanes *arvensis.*
Cernus *mascula.*
——- *sanguinea.*
Gallium *aparine.*
——— *verum.*
Plantago *major.*
——— *lanceolata.*
Rubia *tinctorum.*
—— *peregrina.*
Scabiosa *vulgaris.*
——— *succisa.*

Digynia.

Cuscuta *Europæa.*

PENTANDRIA.

Monogynia.

Anchusa *officinalis.*
Atropa *Belladonna.*
Anagallis *arvensis.*
Campanula *medium.*
—— *Hybrida.*
—— *speculum veneris.*
—— —— *sanabilis.*
Convolvulus *Sepium.*
Datura *stramonium.*
——— *Metel.*
Echium *vulgare.*
Hedera *Helix.*
Hyoscyamus *niger.*
Lithospermum *arvensis.*
Lysimachia *vulgaris.*
Lonicera *caprifolium.*
Lycopsis *pulla.*
Onosma *orientalis.*
Primula *minima.*
Plumbago *officinalis.*
Rhamnus *paliurus.*
Solanum *vulgare* — *nigrum ?*
——— *Dulcamara.*
——— *lycopersicum.*
Symphitum *consolida.*
Vitis *vinifera.*
Ulmus *campestris.*

Verbascum *Thapsus.*
——— *blattaria.*
——— *Phœnicum.*
Viola *montana.*

Digynia.

Apium *graveolens.*
Bupleurum *lanceolatum.*
Conium *maculatum.*
Chenopodium *vulgare.*
Eryngium *maritimum.*
——— *campestre.*
Gentiana *centaureum.*
——— *cruciata.*
Herniaria *glabra.*
Rhus *coriaria.*
Scandix *cerefolium.*
Scandix *pecten veneris.*
Selinum *palustre.*

Trigynia.

Viburnum.
Alsine *vulgaris — media ?*
Sambucus *nigra.*
——— *Ebulus.*

Pentagynia.

Crassula *orbicularis.*

HEXANDRIA.

Monogynia.

Asphodelus *luteus.*
Asparagus *officinalis.*
Convallaria *Majalis.*
——— *polygonatum.*
Hyacinthus *communis — nonscriptus ?*
Ornithogalum *minimum.*
——— *Pyrenaicum.*
——— *Narbonense.*
——— *pyramidale.*
——— *umbellatum.*
Tulipa *Gesneriana.*

Trigynia.

Rumex *acetosa.*
——— *Acetosella.*

Tetragynia.

Colchicum *autumnale.*
Alisma *plantago.*

OCTANDRIA.

Monogynia.

Epilobium *palustre.*

Trigynia.

Polygonum *Persicaria.*

ENNEANDRIA.

Monogynia.

Laurus *nobilis.*

Hexagynia.

Butomus *umbellatus.*

DECANDRIA.

Monogynia.

Zygophyllum *Fabago.*
Dictamnus *albus.*

Digynia.

Dianthus *carthusianorum.*
——— *barbatus.*
——— *prolifer.*
——— *fasciculatus.*
Silena *Muscipula.*
Saxafraga *coronaria.*

Trigynia.

Cucubalus *Behen.*

Pentagynia.

Sedum *album.*
——— *Rupestre.*
Agrostema *Githago.*
Lichnis *dioica.*
Oxalis *acetosella.*
Phytolacca *decandra.*

DODECANDRIA.

Monogynia.

Lithrum *salicaria.*
Nitraria.

Digynia.

Agrimonia *eupatoria.*
——— *Agrimonioides.*

Trigynia.

Euphorbia.
Reseda *major.*

Dodecagynia.

Sempervivum *Tectorum.*

ICOSANDRIA.

Monogynia.

Myrtus *communis.*
Punica *granatum.*
Prunus *spinosa.*

Trigynia.

Cratægus *oxyacantha.*
Sorbus *domestica.*

Tetragynia.

Spirea *crenata.*

Polygynia.

Geum *urbanum.*
Rosa *canina.*
Rubus *Idæus.*

POLYANDRIA.

Monogynia.

Chelidonium *majus.*
——— *corniculatum.*
——— *glaucium.*
Cistus *arabicus.*
Nymphea *alba.*
——— *lutea.*
Papaver *rhoeas.*
——— *hispidum.*
Tilia *europæa.*

Trigynia.

Aconitum *napellus.*
Delphinium *Ajacis.*

Polygynia.

Adonis *vernalis.*
Anemone *pratensis.*
Helleborus *niger.*
Ranunculus *aquatilis.*
——— *muricatus.*
——— *luteus — acris ?*
——— *trilobus.*
——— *bulbosus.*
——— *arvensis.*
——— *Ficaria.*
——— *Sceleratus.*

DIDYNAMIA.

Gymnospermia.

Ballota *nigra.*
Clinopodium *vulgare.*
——— *Botrys.*
Mentha *aquatica.*
——— *sylvestris.*
——— *arvensis.*
——— *Pulegium.*
Origanum *vulgare.*
Prunella *vulgaris.*
Stachys *sylvatica.*
Teucrium *scordium.*
——— *pseudo-chamæpitys.*
Marrubium *album.*
——— *vulgare.*
Scutellaria *galericulata.*

Angiospermia.

Antirrhinum *linaria.*
Euphrasia *officinalis.*
Vitex *agnus-castus.*
Scrophularia *nodosa.*

TETRADYNAMIA.

Siliculosa.

Draba *verna.*
Draba *incana.*
Thlapsi *Bursa-pastoris.*

Siliquosa.

Arabis *alpinus.*
Erysimum *alliaria.*
Raphanus *Raphanistrum.*
Sinapis *arvensis.*
Sisymbrium *Nasturtium.*
——— *sylvestre.*
——— *Sophia.*
Turitis *glabra.*

MONADELPHIA.

Decandria.

Geranium *moschatum.*
——— *lucidum.*
——— *Robertianum.*
——— *columbinum.*

Polyandria.

Alcea *arborea* — Althæa *ficifolia ?*
Althæa *officinalis.*
Malva *sylvestris.*

DIADELPHIA.

Hexandria.

Fumaria *officinalis.*

Decandria.

Astragalus *glycyphyllus.*
Coronilla *varia.*
Hedysarum *fruticosum.*
Lathyrus *Cicer.*
Ononis *spinosa.*
Orobus *Pyrenaicum.*
Trifolium *pratense.*
——— *Lappaceum.*
——— *purpureum.*
——— *rubens.*
——— *agrarium.*
——— *corniculatum.*
Vicia *sepium.*

POLYADELPHIA.

Polyandria.

Hypericum *perforatum.*

SYNGENESIA.

Æqualis.

Arctium *lappa.*
Bidens *tripartita.*
Carduus *lanceolatus.*
Cichoreum *Intybus.*
Eupatorium *Canabina.*
Lactuca *virosa.*
Onopordon *Acanthium.*

Superflua.

Achillea *millefolium.*
Artemisia *Abrotanum.*
——— *absinthium.*
Anthemis *Tinctoria.*
——— *Cotula.*
——— *nobilis.*
Aster *alpinus.*
——— *Tripolium.*
Bellis *perennis.*
Matricaria *Chamomilla.*
Senecio *vulgaris.*
Tanacetum *vulgare.*
Chrysanthemum *inodorum.*

Necessaria.

Filago *pyramidalis.*

Frustanea.

Centaurea *Benedicta.*
——— *Cyanus.*
——— *Calcitrapa.*

MONOECIA.

Monandria.

Ceratocarpus *arenarius.*

Tetrandria.

Urtica *dioica.*
Xanthium *strumarium.*

Polyandria.

Arum *Dracunculus.*
——— *lanceolatum — tenuifolium ?*
Quercus *crinita.*
——— *Infectoria.*
——— *ægilops.*

Monadelphia.

Bryonia *officinalis — alba ?*
Pinus *Pinea.*
Ricinus *communis.*

DIOECIA.

Diandria.

Salix *Helix.*
——— *Babylonica.*
——— *Betiolus.*
——— *pentandria.*
——— *luprica.*

Tetrandria.

Pistacia *lentiscus.*

Hexandria.

Populus *alba.*
——— *nigra.*

Octandria.

Mercurialis *perennis.*

Polyandria.

Juniperus *sabina.*

POLYGAMIA.

Monoecia.

Holcus *saccharatus.*

Dioecia.

Diospyrus *lotus.*

CRYPTOGAMIA.

Algæ.

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Fungi.

Lycoperdon *tuberosum.*

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